# REPORT FROM THE ATHLETES COMMISSION

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 64**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: 4.5.2, 4.5.6, 4.5.7, 4.5.11**

**Motivation:** Federations have to choose between several athletes for this commission. They should be able to present one man and one woman, thus not being obliged to choose between one man and one woman.

**4.5 ELECTION OF THE ATHLETES COMMISSION.**

4.5.2 All athletes who, in the weapon in which they fence, have been entered to compete in either one of the last two Olympic Games or at least one of the Senior World Championships held over the last 5 years can be a candidate for the Athletes Commission.

If the fencer has fenced several weapons during such competitions, he must choose only one of those weapons for this candidature.

Each member federation can nominate ~~one single~~ up to two athletes to the Athletes Commission if they are of a different gender.

4.5.6 A list of candidates will be established, ~~all weapons combined,~~ by weapon and each participant shall vote for seven athletes maximum, whatever weapon the athletes are applying for.

4.5.7 The voting athletes will personally go to the voting office/booth of the FIE at the competition site in order to proceed with the vote, after having verified their identity by presenting their accreditation.

4.5.11 In case of a tie, the candidate who has the highest placing in the world ~~Open~~ Senior ranking on the date of the opening of the Senior World Championships will have the preference.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** The Commission agrees with the amendment presented, as it is in line with the IOC's policy to ensure participation and gender balance.

## REPORT OF THE FIE ATHLETES COMMISSION

# Proposals for the 2026 Congress

# Modifications of the Organisation Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 1**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.3**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not included into the FIE rankings because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word “cadet” in article o.3.

**o.3** These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the ‘Official Competitions of the FIE’, viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, cadet, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- International competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** The Commission agrees with this proposed amendment, which will promote the practice of fencing and enhance the competitive standard.

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**Proposal 2**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles: o.3, o.42, o.55, o.60, o.89, o.108**

**Motivation :** Introduction to Zonal Cadet as part of FIE Competition

**o.3** These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the 'Official Competitions of the FIE', viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, cadet, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- International competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes.

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships and the Cadet and Junior Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, ~~Cadet circuit,~~ etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the **Cadet and** Junior Zonal Championships comprises ~~6~~ **12** individual events, and 6 team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, **Cadet** and Junior Individual Zone Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team Zone Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.55**

The **forms** must be sent to all federations at the same time as the official invitation. The federations must indicate their **intention to participate** three months before the beginning of the Championships.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior, Cadet and Junior Championships***

***Zone Championship***

**o.60**

For **Cadet,** junior and senior Individual Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

**o.108**

**1 Principles**

**c) The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships **and Zonal Championships.**

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** The Commission agrees with this proposed amendment, which will promote the practice of fencing and enhance the competitive standard.

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**Proposal 6**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles o.41, o.99, t.41, t.124**

**Motivation:** We considered how to make team matches shorter and more dynamic, with increased suspense through greater individual responsibility for each fencer. The objective is to create a format

that is more attractive for television and digital broadcasting, easier to understand for spectators, and overall more dynamic and spectacular in presentation.

The proposal consists of modifying the current team competition format by introducing a set-based system, according to the following rules:

Each match would be contested as a best-of-three sets (two sets required to win).

Each set would be fenced to 15 touches using the relay format (5–10–15).

The team that wins two sets wins the match.

If each team wins one set, a decisive third set would be fenced to 15 touches.

Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).

Each team would consist of three fencers, with one optional substitute.

Each set would be fenced independently, with the score reset to 0–0 at the start of each set.

Touches would not carry over from one set to another.

Each coach would have one 30-second time-out available per match.

**o.41**

**2 Principles**

c) The matches proceed according to the **2 winning sets** ~~**team-relay**~~ **formula**, as provided for in Article o.99 of these Rules.

**o.99**

The **formula** for the competition is as follows.

**1** The **relay formula 2 winning sets** applies to all weapons.

**2** The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team (~~**9**~~ **relay bouts**). **In 2 winning sets, in case of a tie a 3rd decisive set will be fence.**

**3** The bouts of each **set** match have to be fought in the following **order**:

~~3–6 2–5~~
~~1–5 1–4~~
~~2–4 2–6~~
~~1–6 3–5~~
~~3–4~~

| 1St Set | 2nd Set | 3rd Set |
|---|---|---|
| 3–6 | 2–5 | 1–4 |
| 1–5 | 3–4 | 2–6 |
| 2–4 | 1–6 | 3–5 |

If this order is **altered**, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

4 **The position of each team on the match score-sheet** is decided by drawing lots. **The order of the individual fencers** is then decided by the team captains.

5

**d) Each team captain has one 30-second timeout that can be used during the entire match**

**t.124**

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all ~~9 relays~~ **set**) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts, at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at ~~44-44~~ 14-14 in each set.

**t.41**

1 Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of **five hits** (5, 10, 15~~, 20, etc~~.), ~~Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5, 10, 15 etc. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted;~~ the maximum time for each bout is **3 minutes**.

2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.
**The two opponents in the 3rd relay shoot up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3 minutes.**

3 If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

4 **The winning team** is that which first reaches **2 winning sets** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after~~ ~~the expiry of regulation time.~~
**In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 minutes each.**

5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

- For team Junior competition (season 2027/2028)

- For team Senior competition after LA 2028 (season 2028/2029)

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:**

1 Review the text highlighted in violet in the motivation, there is an error in the timing.
2 In line with the Rules Commission, the Commission agrees that the proposal shall take effect after LA 2028 and be subject to a trial period.

From the motivation: Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).

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**Proposal 7**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.42**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by the FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the Cadet Zonal Championships in article o.42, in order to regulate the entries to these competitions.

**ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships, ~~and~~ the Junior Zonal Championships and the Cadet Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the Junior and Cadet Zonal Championships comprises 6 individual Cadet events and 6 individual Junior events, and 6 Junior team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships,

at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

**ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships, ~~and the Junior Zonal Championships~~ and the Cadet Zonal Championships~~.~~ Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the Cadet and Junior ~~and Cadet~~ Zonal Championships comprises 6 individual Cadet events and 6 individual Junior events, and 6 Junior team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Cadet, Junior and Senior~~, and Junior and Cadet~~ Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Junior and Senior ~~and Junior~~ Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 8**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.56**

**Motivation:** As it is already permitted to enter additional fencers after the deadline, clarify the addition of a team after the deadline, as already in place for the Senior team World Cups.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet Championships***

**o.56**

**3 Withdrawal of a fencer or a team**

**After the cut-off date for entries, there can be no further withdrawal of a name or of a team except in any case of force majeure duly justified.**

Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalised by a **fine** (**cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines**), payable to the FIE, **except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'.**

**4 Addition of fencer(s) or a team after the deadline ~~after the cut-off date.~~**

Nevertheless, one or more fencers and/or a team may be added, up until 10.00am (**local time in the town hosting the World or Zonal Championships**) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a **penalty (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) per ~~fencer~~ entry added**. To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer and/or a team, together with immediate payment of the penalty.

**5 Changes of names**, only with the agreement of the FIE, can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 9**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.60**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated in FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word "cadet" in article o.60.

***~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship***

**o.60**

For cadet, junior and senior Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 10**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.62**

**Motivation:** In recent years, the number of participants in Senior individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased significantly, which results in extremely long competition days and increased logistical pressure on organizers, referees, athletes and officials. The excessive duration of competitions affects the quality of the event, athlete performance conditions and the overall efficiency of the competition schedule. It also increases organizational costs and operational complexity for host federations.

For the majority of National Federations, which typically enter between 1 and 6 athletes, the introduction of an 8-fencer limit would not restrict their participation. On the contrary, it would create a more balanced competition environment.

**o.62**

**1** For **Grand Prix competitions and Senior Individual World Cup competitions**, ~~Cadet, Junior and Senior, Senior and Junior,~~ at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of ~~12~~ 8 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**2** ~~For **Individual World Cup competitions outside Europe**, the organising country may enter up to 30 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.~~ For **Cadet and Junior Individual World Cup competitions**, at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of 12 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 11**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.83, o.85, o.86, o.87**

**Motivation:** In recent years, participation in individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased considerably, with some events reaching over 300 athletes. Many of the athletes ask for equal conditions in the individual competition. In order to have equal conditions in senior FIE competitions, all the participants should start compete from the pools. After the pools all the qualifies athletes will fence the direct elimination table up to T64 in the first day. No top 16 world ranking exempte, no top 16 after the pools will be qualify direct to the T64. In the second day the rest of T64 will be fence. So all Senior FIE events will use one unifies formula.

All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

## *C. MIXED FORMULA A. SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, SENIOR WORLD CUPS AND GRAND PRIX*

### Mixed formula A

**o.83**

One qualifying round of pools, a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table~~, a main direct elimination table~~ of ~~64~~ fencers to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Senior World Championships as well as for the Senior World Cup competitions and Grand Prix competitions.

**o.85**

1 The competition consists of two phases, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.

~~2 The 16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification are exempt from the preliminary phase.~~

~~3~~ 2 Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.

~~4 In the case of a tie in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.~~

**o.86**

1 For World Cups ~~T~~the preliminary phase consists of one round of pools, from which 25% ~~20%–30%~~ of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all participants ~~competing in them~~, and a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table until 64 fencers remain. For World Championship and Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

~~2 After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf o.73) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the 16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers is determined according to V, HS-HR, HS.~~

~~3~~ 2 The remainder of the fencers qualifying from the pools will make up a ~~preliminary integral~~ direct elimination table. This will be based on the indices of the fencers in all the pools (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots). This table, be it complete or incomplete, will be fenced until only 64 ~~32~~ fencers remain.

**o.87**

1 The main phase consists of a~~n~~ 64 integral direct elimination table, which is fenced on four pistes, one quarter of the table per piste. The first round of the table of 64 may, however, if required for the organisation of the competition, be fenced on eight pistes. Grand Prix competitions must be fenced either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video refereeing.

~~2 The seeded fencers exempted from the preliminary phase occupy places 1–16 in this table, drawing lots in pairs in the order of their official FIE classification.~~

~~3 Should one of the 16 exempted fencers who had been entered not present himself to fence (cf. o.85), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.~~

~~4 The 16 fencers who have the highest indices after the round of pools and who are thus exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table will take places 17–32, classified in the order of their indices (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots).~~

~~5~~ ~~The 32 fencers qualifying from the~~ preliminary direct elimination table will ~~occupy places 33–64, classified according to their indices after the round of pools.~~

~~6 The drawing of lots and allocation of the qualified fencers in the main table (T64) shall be made at the end of the preliminary table in the presence of the Directoire Technique President.~~

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour, I should point out that this proposal has been mentioned by the Athletes' Commission in the past.

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**Proposal 12**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.89**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by FIE' rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to list all zonals in article below.

***D. MIXED FORMULA B – JUNIOR AND CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, CADET WORLD CUPS, JUNIOR WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.***

**Mixed Formula B**

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 13**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.92**

**Motivation:** All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

**o.92**

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

**Proposal 14**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.98, o.100**

**Motivation:** The Senior and Junior World Cups bring together a very large number of participants. With the current format, the competition has become increasingly difficult to manage due to the growing number of registered athletes. No other sport offers such a long competition format in a single day.

This situation results in significant physical and mental fatigue for the athletes, increased pressure on coaches and officials, an excessive workload for event organizers, and considerable fatigue for referees, whose concentration must remain at the highest level throughout the entire event.

Furthermore, such an extended format greatly reduces media appeal. No media outlet, journalist, photographer, or television broadcaster can reasonably cover a continuous competition lasting 9 to 12 hours. This limits international visibility and hinders the development of the discipline.

For all these reasons, we propose that the Senior and Junior World Cups adopt a full direct elimination format.

This system would allow for a significant reduction in the overall duration of the competition, better clarity for the public and the media, increased sporting intensity in every round, more efficient and professional organization, and improved working conditions for referees and officials.

This reform would make the competition more dynamic, more attractive, and better aligned with modern international sporting standards.

***TEAM COMPETITIONS***

***A. JUNIOR, SENIOR ~~AND JUNIOR~~ WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS***

**o.98**

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex b).

**2** At the Junior, ~~and~~ Senior World Championships **and Zonal Championships** the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

**3** **At the Junior ,Senior, ~~and~~ ~~Junior~~ World Championships and Zonal Championships,** all places in the table up to 16th place are fought for. From 17th place onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**o.100**

~~Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, Senior World Championships and Zonal Championships respectively.~~

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex A).

**2** At the Junior and Senior World Cup the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

3 **At the Junior and Senior World Cup, the competition format is direct elimination** onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 15**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.105**

**Motivation:** Cadet Zonal championships should follow the same rule as junior zonal championships.

**Video Refereeing**

**o.105**

Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the World Championships and Olympic Games, cadet, junior and senior Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

**1** For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, senior Zonal ~~Zone~~ Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on 4 pistes or 8 pistes, and in any case, **from the table of 64.**

| Competitions | Individual event VIDEO, from | Team event VIDEO, from | Number of pistes equipped with VIDEO | Teams and ranking matches |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Senior World Cup | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior World Cup | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |
| Grand-Prix | T 64 | ---------- | 4 or 8 | ---------- |
| Senior World Championships | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Junior/Cadet World Championships | T 32 | T 16 (juniors) | 8 | T 1-8 |
| Senior Zonal Championship | T 64 | T 16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior Zonal Championship | ~~not mandatory~~ T16 | ~~not mandatory~~ T 16 (juniors) | ~~not mandatory~~ 4 or 8 | ~~not mandatory~~ T 1-8 |
| Veteran World Championships | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |
| Zonal qualifying events for the Olympic Games | Pools | ---------- - | All pistes | ---------- |
| Olympic Games | Mandatory for all phases of the Olympic competition | | | |

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 16**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.108**

**Motivation:** Related to the addition of Cadet Zonal Championships.

**Official FIE individual ranking**

**o.108 1**

**1 Principles**

**c) The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships and the Zonal Championships

**o.108 2**

**2 Scale of points**

**c)** Points obtained in ~~a~~ **Grand Prix** and ~~a~~ individual Zonal Championships ~~competition~~ of the FIE (cadet, junior and senior) are multiplied by a factor of 1.5.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 18**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.119**

**(Urgent decision) For Team competition Veterans World Championship 2026 for to use the new formula in next Veterans World Championship in Tbilisi 2026**

**o.119**

1 Participation
Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon.

2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is ~~45 hits relay~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour

**Proposals for the 2026 Congress**

**Modifications of the Technical Rules**

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 20**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.9.1**

**Motivation:** In definition of attack is only explanation concerning movement of the arm, but nothing about moving forward the feet, extending arm on the spot or with step back could be considered as an attack according to the existing t.9.1.

**t.9.1**

The **attack** is the initial offensive action ~~made~~ of non-stop movement forward, started by extending the arm and continuously threatening the opponent's target, preceding the launching of the lunge or fleche (cf. t.83, t.84, t.85 and t.101ss).

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** non-conclusive opinion

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**Proposal 21**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.22, t.170 1.13)**

**Motivation:** To add clarity and consistency for the commonly given penalty of "false starts"

The penalty for the "false start" it is not explicated stated in the rulebook. It is most consistently given in sabre but is less consistently given in foil and epee. By explicitly stating this as a rule, ambiguity and inconsistency is removed, and it will be more evenly applied and easily understood and expected by all.

**t.22**

**12.** The fencers must come on guard correctly and remain completely still until the command 'Play!' is given by the Referee. **A fencer who does not remain still or who initiates an action before**

**the command "Play" commits an offense in the 1st group and will be penalized in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.**

**t.170**

1st group

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.13 | Refusal to obey the Referee, **False Start** | t.108, t.112, **t.22.12** | Yellow | Red | Red |

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 22**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.27**

**Motivation:** To make clear that hit before "Halt!" should be awarded.

**t.27**

2 It is forbidden to turn one's back on one's opponent during the bout. Should such an offence occur, the Referee will penalise the fencer at fault as specified in articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled, however, the hit of the opponent before the Referee called 'Halt!' is valid.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 23**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.34**

**Motivation:** To keep the same terminology like in t.22.10

**t.34**

Should a competitor cross the rear limit of the piste completely- i.e. with both feet — a technical hit will be ~~scored~~ awarded against him.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 24**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.35, t.170 2.7)**

**Motivation:** As nowadays leaving the piste to avoid being hit has become a tactic and it should be penalised with “Red Card”.

**t.35**

3 A competitor who crosses **intentionally** one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with **one or** both feet — e.g. when making a flèche **or to stop his opponent’s attack** — to avoid being hit will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158 -~~162, t.165~~, **t. 166**, t.170, for the offences of the ~~1st~~ 2nd group. Any hit made by the offending fencer is annulled.

**t.170**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2.7 | Crossing lateral boundary of the piste to avoid being hit **(*)** | **t.35.3** | Red | Red | Red |

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 25**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.39**

**Motivation:** There is no requirements to name a person’s name before the bout, but the person on the piste should be accredited.

**t.39**

2 During the one-minute rests, an accredited person ~~named before the bout~~, may have access to the fencer.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 26**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.62**

**Motivation:** To avoid unnecessary repetitions and have the regulations in case of the technical problems if a video is not available. Cf. articles t.62.2, t.61.1-2, t.62.3, t.62.4.

**t.62**

1 There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.

2 At all weapons and at any time, the referee on her/his own initiative may consult his monitor before making a decision.

3 If the fencers' scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision.

4 The video-referee may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

5 Once the referee, together with the video-referee, has analysed the action, ~~whether it is:~~
~~at the referee's initiative~~
~~at the request of the athlete~~
~~in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit~~
~~at the video-referee's request~~

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.

6 Each time the referee consults the video, ~~whether on his own initiative, following an appeal or at the suggestion of the video-referee~~, the opinions of the referee and the video-referee must be recorded on the match sheet.

7 In case of technical problems if a video is not available:

- once the referee has made a decision on the piste, that decision cannot be changed
- if no decision has been made, the Referee abstains
- it is up to the referee to make the final decision regarding a decisive hit

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 27**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.64**

**Motivation:** The place inside the Piste Enclosure is for the referees working zone and must be free of foreign objects.

**t.64**

7. No recording devices placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 28**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.71**

**Motivation:** To correct penalties for offences with clothing and equipment which does not conform with the Rules. For example, missing a control mark is a 2nd group, missing logo is elimination from the competition and not correct size is a 1st group of penalties as well as to make clear what should happen after 5 minutes if a fencer has no regular equipment.

**t.71**

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only one regulation weapon (cf. t.114, 115); or
- with only one regulation bodywire; or
- with only one regulation mask wire, or
- with a weapon or a bodywire which does not work, or which does not conform with the Rules; or
- without his protective under-plastron (cf. t.64.5); or
- with a conductive jacket which does not fully cover the valid target; or
- with a mask whose 2nd security device is not securely fixed to the body of the mask; or
- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.) ;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in ~~Articles t.158-162, t.165,~~ t.170~~, for the offences of the 1st group~~ and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes; otherwise, the fencer will be excluded from the competition.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 30**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.72**

**Motivation:** The fencer should not be penalized if the condition of the equipment changed during the bout in case a fencer does not notice this because he was focused on the next action.

**t.72**

When during a bout an irregularity is found in the equipment which could be caused by conditions **during** the bout:

Examples:

- conductive jacket with holes in which hits are registered as non-valid,
- weapon or bodywire no longer functioning,
- pressure of the spring in the point too weak,
- the travel in the point no longer regulation,
- a curve of the blade exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4)
- presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device.

the Referee will apply neither warning nor penalty and any hit scored with the equipment which has become defective will be awarded.

~~However, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose weapon, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, has a curve of the blade which exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4) commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.~~

~~Similarly, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose mask, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device (cf. m.25.7.f), commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with articles t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170.~~

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 32**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.124**

**Motivation:** The current P-card rule has not had a positive effect on fencers' behavior on the piste, particularly in épée. One minute is too long to wait before sanctioning passivity with a P-card, and it does not encourage fencers to be more offensive or to engage more actively in the bout.

In other combat sports, such as judo, if an athlete refuses to engage for 20 to 30 seconds, they are penalized with a yellow card. This rule creates a more dynamic rhythm and forces competitors to take initiative.

Therefore, reducing the passivity time to 30 seconds could encourage fencers to adopt a more offensive attitude and engage more quickly in the bout**. The P-card should be use starting with the pools.**

**(Non-combativity)**

**t.124**

**Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)**

There is unwillingness to fight when there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of unwillingness to fight, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!' as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

**1 Individual events ~~– Direct elimination~~**

~~P-yellow cards and~~ P-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1~~.c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P ~~-yellow-~~**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both fencers with~~ a P~~-red~~ **black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

ii) If the scores of the two fencers are not equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower score with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

**2 Team events**

~~P-yellow ,~~ P-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2.~~c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P~~-yellow-~~**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both teams with~~ a P~~-red~~ **Black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores for the two teams are equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, with a P-Black card. The team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

ii) If the scores for the two teams are not equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-Black card. The team with the higher score wins the match.

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all 9 relays) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at 44-44.

b) In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.

c) In both individual and team competitions, the period/relay continues after the awarding of a ~~P-yellow or~~ P-Red card.

d) The ~~minute~~ **30 Seconds** starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled, each penalty hit and at the beginning of each period or relay.

e) The referee must record these ~~P-yellow,~~ P-red and P-black cards separately on the score sheet. The sanctions awarded for unwillingness to fight are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.

f) In both individual and team competitions, if, at the end of the regulation time, there is equality of scores, article t.124 does not apply and articles t.40.3 and t.41.5 will apply.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 33**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.127**

**Motivation:** Update t.127 with gender neutral language to better reflect our athletes. Gendered language that excludes female athletes can easily be updated to be inclusive

**t.127**

At the end of a bout, the Referee must bring together the two fencers, to announce clearly the score, which will be transmitted to the Directoire Technique. He must say clearly: '~~Mister~~ Fencer X won against ~~Mister~~ Fencer Y with the following score…'

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 34**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.128**

**Motivation:** To stop giving hits away that has been common action in recent seasons and to avoid the awarding a black card for it as required in t.128 but penalize with a less serious penalty.

**Personal effort**

**t.128**

Competitors must fence to their utmost ability in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits or seeking to be favoured by being given hits by anyone ~~(cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170)~~. ~~Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group.~~

1 A hit giving away to the opponent should not be awarded and the fencer who do so should be penalised for the offences of the 1st group (cf. t.165, t.170);

2 Profit from a fraudulent agreement with his opponent to change a result of the bout or team match will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group (cf. t.169, t.170).

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 35**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.132**

**Motivation:** During the team match nobody should enter the Piste Enclosure as well as to leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission.

**t.132**

2 During team competitions, no one has the right to enter the Piste Enclosure or leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission. In the case of such an offence, the Referee will penalise the offending team as provided for in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170. A warning imposed on a team is valid for the complete team match. Should a fencer, within the same match, commit another offence from the First Group, the Referee will penalise him on each occasion with a Red Card.

**Opinion of the Athletes Commission:** In favour.

**FIE Athletes Commission – Meeting Summary - 25 February 2026**

**1. Athletes' involvement in FIE promotion and development**

The importance of greater involvement of Athletes Commission members in FIE promotional activities was highlighted, particularly in the lead-up to LA 2028. Members were encouraged to participate in Junior and Cadet events, training camps, ceremonies and promotional initiatives, as well as to use their profiles and social media channels to increase fencing's visibility and attract younger audiences.

Rubén Limardo confirmed his participation in the Junior and Cadet World Championships in Rio, including involvement in the training camp and activities with young fencers.

**2. Competition calendar and reduction in the number of events**

A substantial discussion took place regarding the proposed reduction in the number of World Cups and the restructuring of the international calendar. The rationale presented included improving athlete preparation and recovery, reducing travel, sustainability considerations, improving competition quality, and providing more equal opportunities to countries with limited resources.

Alexander Massialas expressed strong concerns regarding the reduction of competitions. He argued that fewer events could significantly affect the rankings and reduce opportunities for athletes, particularly because World and Zonal Championships restrict participation to four fencers per country. He stressed that the consequences for the ranking system had not been sufficiently analysed.

He consequently proposed reviewing the **weighting of ranking points**, including potentially reducing the coefficients attributed to World and Zonal Championships. It was explained that changes to the Olympic qualification/points system could not be introduced at this stage before LA 2028, but proposals could be considered for the future.

The revised calendar was still being finalised and would be submitted to the Athletes Commission for feedback.

**3. Athlete consultation and role of the Commission**

Rubén Limardo stressed that individual concerns or proposals should be formally submitted to the Commission so they can be discussed collectively. Where a majority position emerges, the Commission can submit a formal report or proposal to the FIE and Executive Committee.

He also requested better information-sharing between the Coaches Council, Rules Commission and Athletes Commission when proposals affecting athletes are being

developed. It was confirmed that relevant proposals would be shared with the Athletes Commission.

The deadline for submitting proposals for the 2026 Congress was confirmed as **20 March 2026**, with members encouraged to submit proposals earlier to allow time for review and corrections.

**4. Competition format and large entries**

The increasing number of participants at certain competitions, particularly men's épée events exceeding 300 fencers, was raised. Possible future formats inspired by other sports were mentioned, including differentiated competition levels or formats based on rankings. No decision had been taken, and the Athletes Commission was invited to submit proposals.

**5. Competition quality, venues and athlete safety**

Members discussed the need to substantially improve the presentation and quality of FIE competitions. Ziad Elsissy highlighted venue selection as a major issue and suggested staging final phases or promotional events in iconic, high-traffic locations, citing Grand Central Station in New York as an example.

Concerns were also raised regarding inadequate competition infrastructure, including incomplete pistes and unsafe conditions. The introduction of FIE Event Managers and stronger requirements for organisers were highlighted as tools to improve safety, presentation and consistency.

The combination of men's and women's competitions was viewed positively as an opportunity to create more attractive events, while collaboration with professional event companies was suggested to improve the spectator experience and presentation.

**6. Visibility of fencing and LA 2028**

The broader objective of making fencing more attractive to spectators, broadcasters and social media audiences was repeatedly emphasised. Improving venues, presentation, athlete promotion and event production was considered essential to strengthening fencing's position within the Olympic Movement ahead of LA 2028.

The Athletes Commission was invited to play an active role by submitting concrete ideas and proposals rather than only providing feedback on existing initiatives.

**7. Recognition of athletes at the FIE Congress**

Ziad Elsissy raised concerns about the way world No. 1 athletes are currently recognised at the FIE Congress, considering the ceremony insufficient relative to their sporting achievements. He suggested a more professional presentation, including videos and stronger staging of the athletes.

It was acknowledged that the current format could be improved, and changes were announced for the next Congress, with the objective of giving athletes greater recognition and visibility.

**Main follow-up points**

- Finalised competition calendar to be shared with the Athletes Commission for feedback.
- Athletes Commission members to submit formal proposals and collective positions, including potential future changes to the ranking system.
- Improve information-sharing between the Athletes Commission, Coaches Council and other relevant Commissions.
- Athletes Commission to develop proposals on competition formats, presentation, venues and athlete experience.
- Increase athletes' involvement in promotional initiatives towards LA 2028.
- Improve the recognition and presentation of top-ranked athletes at the next FIE Congress.

This version could already serve as the basis for an **official Commission Report**: it deliberately removes the sometimes tense back-and-forth in the transcript while preserving Massialas' substantive disagreement on the calendar and ranking implications.

FIE FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE D'ESCRIME

## REPORT OF THE LEGAL COMMISSION

# Proposals for the 2026 Congress

# Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 1**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 1.1**

**Motivation:** Updating the mission of the FIE, in compliance with the FIE 2025-2028 Strategic plan published, the Olympic Charter and the fundamental principles that govern the Olympic Movement.

**1.1 MISSION**

The FIE is recognised by the IOC as the organization which governs the sport of fencing worldwide in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3 of the Olympic Charter*.

The FIE recognises the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee and the competence of the Commission of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee. (Moved from 1.2.8)

The Aims of the FIE are:

a) to promote the development of fencing throughout the world, to tighten the ties of friendship which unite fencers of all countries, by setting up lasting relations between representative groups, and to nurture the improvement of the practice of our sport in every way.
b) to ~~see~~ ensure that international competitions which are open to member federations are organised in accordance with FIE Rules and any FIE requirement;

c) to establish Rules according to which international competitions must be organised;

d) to organise the ~~Open~~ Senior World Championships, as well as Junior, Cadet and Veteran World Championships;

e) to authorise and supervise ~~the other~~ all FIE official ~~FIE~~ competitions and events.~~;~~ The Executive Committee withdraws the organisation of FIE official competitions and events if the member federation, which was allocated an event, does not confirm in writing that they have received a written agreement from their national authorities guaranteeing the granting of visas to all the participants of the member national federations of the FIE.

f) to ensure that in international competitions the bans, suspensions, expulsions, disqualifications and all other penalties issued by one of the member federations are respected;

g) to study and legislate on all matters pertaining to fencing in international relations;

h) to promote and ~~develop~~ implement the ~~struggle~~ fight against doping;

i) to organise the fencing at the Olympic Games, in liaison with the International Olympic Committee.

j) to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on any ground, such as but not limited to, the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status ~~or other~~, is fully respected and implemented.

k) to apply appropriate measures to contribute to the respect of the environment.

l) to ensure fair sporting contests so that the spirit of fair play prevails.

m) to establish rules and appropriate measures to protect the health of athletes and prevent any abuse.

n) to take appropriate means to provide for the social and professional future of athletes.

o) to take the appropriate measures to implement "The Athletes' Rights and Responsibilities Declaration" (Athletes' Declaration).

p) to educate, train and certify athletes, officials, referees, coaches, administrators and technicians.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** We suggest to move Article 1.1 e) to Article 1.2.5 with the modified text as written above. It will be not possible for all of the member federations to obtain a written agreement from the national authorities guarantying granting of visas. Authorities may not be obliged to enter into such agreements and they always have to comply with their local law.

**Article: 1.1**

**1.1 MISSION**

The FIE is recognised by the IOC as the organization which governs the sport of fencing worldwide in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3 of the Olympic Charter*.

The FIE recognises the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee and the competence of the Commission of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee. (Moved from 1.2.8)

The Aims of the FIE are:

a) to promote the development of fencing throughout the world, to tighten the ties of friendship which unite fencers of all countries, by setting up lasting relations between representative groups, and to nurture the improvement of the practice of our sport in every way.
b) to ~~see~~ ensure that international competitions which are open to member federations are organised in accordance with FIE Rules and any FIE requirement;

c) to establish Rules according to which international competitions must be organised;

d) to organise the ~~Open~~ Senior World Championships, as well as Junior, Cadet and Veteran World Championships;

e) to authorise and supervise ~~the other~~ all FIE official ~~FIE~~ competitions and events.~~; The Executive Committee withdraws the organisation of FIE official competitions and events if the member federation, which was allocated an event, does not confirm in writing that they have received a written agreement from their national authorities guaranteeing the granting of visas to all the participants of the member national federations of the FIE.~~

To be moved to Article 1.2.5 as follows:

The member National Federation which applies as a candidate to organise congresses, official competitions, or any other FIE international events, must document the fact that the organizer ~~has~~ will invite all of the member national federations of the FIE and do everything in their power to obtain the visas needed, and furthermore, used all means to enable all the member National Federations to take part in those events, without any discrimination whatever and in accordance with the IOC recommendations.

Failure to comply will subject the member federations to sanctions by the FIE.

The Executive Committee may withdraw the organisation of FIE official competitions and events if the member federation, which was allocated an event, does not confirm in writing that they have invited all of the member national federations of the FIE.

f) to ensure that in international competitions the bans, suspensions, expulsions, disqualifications and all other penalties issued by one of the member federations are respected;

g) to study and legislate on all matters pertaining to fencing in international relations;

h) to promote and ~~develop~~ implement the ~~struggle~~ fight against doping;

i) to organise the fencing at the Olympic Games, in liaison with the International Olympic Committee.

j) to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on any ground, such as but not limited to, the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status ~~or other~~, is fully respected and implemented.

k) to apply appropriate measures to contribute to the respect of the environment.

l) to ensure fair sporting contests so that the spirit of fair play prevails.

m) to establish rules and appropriate measures to protect the health of athletes and prevent any abuse.

n) to take appropriate means to provide for the social and professional future of athletes.

o) to take the appropriate measures to implement “The Athletes’ Rights and Responsibilities Declaration” (Athletes’ Declaration).

p) to educate, train and certify athletes, officials, referees, coaches, administrators and technicians.

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**Proposal 2**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 1.1.a)**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, “Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority”. In the case of Article 1.1.a), the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

1.1.a)

English text:

MISSION

The FIE is recognised by the IOC as the organization which governs the sport of fencing worldwide in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3 of the Olympic Charter*.

The Aims of the FIE are:

a) to promote the development of fencing throughout the world, and to tighten the ties of friendship which unite fencers of all countries, by setting up lasting relations between representative groups, and to nurture the improvement of the practice of our sport in every way.

*French text:*

*MISSION*

*La FIE est reconnue par le CIO comme l'organisation qui régit mondialement le sport de l'escrime, selon les règles du chapitre 3 de la Charte Olympique*.*

*La FIE a pour objet :*

*a) de favoriser le développement mondial de l’escrime et de resserrer les liens d’amitié qui unissent les escrimeurs de tous les pays, en établissant des rapports permanents entre les groupements qu’ils représentent, et de veiller à l’amélioration de la pratique de notre sport à tout point de vue.*

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comments to its own proposal.

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**Proposal 3**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 1.1.m)**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, “Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority”. In the case of Article 1.1.m), the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

1.1.m)

English text:

MISSION

The FIE is recognised by the IOC as the organization which governs the sport of fencing worldwide in accordance with the rules in Chapter 3 of the Olympic Charter*.

The Aims of the FIE are:

….

m) to establish appropriate rules and ~~appropriate~~ measures to protect the health of athletes and prevent any abuse.

*French text:*

*MISSION*

*La FIE est reconnue par le CIO comme l'organisation qui régit mondialement le sport de l'escrime, selon les règles du chapitre 3 de la Charte Olympique*.*

*La FIE a pour objet :*

*.....*

*m) de définir des règles et des mesures appropriées pour protéger la santé des athlètes et prévenir tout abus.*

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comments to its own proposal.

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**Proposal 4**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 1.2.3**

**Motivation:** FIE licences are not only granted to fencers who compete but also to referees, coaches, etc. Therefore, the word “participate” is more relevant.

**1.2. MEANS OF ACHIEVING THE AIMS**

1.2.3 The ~~F.I.E.~~ FIE grants an international licence ~~to compete~~ to participate in FIE ~~its~~ official competitions (cf. chapter 9).

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made a minor change for the better understanding of the wording.

**1.2. MEANS OF ACHIEVING THE AIMS**

1.2.3 The ~~F.I.E.~~ FIE grants an international licence, where required, ~~to compete~~ to participate in FIE ~~its~~ official competitions (cf. chapter 9).

**Proposal 5**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 1.2.4**

**Motivation:** Make the rule more explicit on application and implementation of the principle of non-discrimination. Also, it could not be found any provision in the Statutes making reference to the possibility to refuse to fence against any other competitor, while the rules sanction such refusal.

1.2.4 The FIE requires each member national Federation to fully apply and implement the principle of ~~political, racial and religious~~ non-discrimination on any ground, such as but not limited to, the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status, as per article 1.1 j).

In particular, no competitor from a member national Federation may take part in an official competition of the FIE or in any other international competition if he or she refuses for any reason to fence against any other registered competitor~~,~~ ~~unless his refusal is authorized by the Statutes or the Rules~~.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal; however, it has corrected a grammatical mistake.

1.2.4 The FIE requires each member national Federation to fully apply and implement the principle of ~~political, racial and religious~~ non-discrimination on any ground, such as but not limited to, the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status, as per ~~a~~Article 1.1 j).

In particular, no competitor from a member national Federation may take part in an official competition of the FIE or in any other international competition if he or she refuses for any reason to fence against any other registered competitor~~,~~ ~~unless his refusal is authorized by the Statutes or the Rules~~.

**Proposal 6**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 1.2.6 a) and b)**

**Motivation:** The paragraph scratched in a) is not well placed in that section and created confusion. It has been redrafted and appears now in article 1.2.6 e). Two paragraphs in a) have been combined in one. Item d), which was not manageable was revised in order to provide this authority to national federations.

1.2.6 a) No team or competitor of a member federation has the right to take part in any competition organised by a non-member country or by a “confederation” which is not recognised by the FIE and the converse.

~~Nevertheless, competitors of countries which are not members of the FIE may be registered for individual competitions organised by member federations, provided that they are F.I.E licensees for the current season. They fence under the banner of the FIE~~

b) All members of member federations are forbidden from taking part in competitions or events organised by an individual or entity which is not recognised by the national federation of their country, unless these competitions or events have been specially authorised by ~~that same federation~~ FIE's Executive Committee.

International competitions which are not organised by a member federation and in which there are more than five nationalities must have the approval of the FIE provided that the FIE rules and safety standards are implemented ~~and must appear on the International Calendar.~~

~~Sub-regional international competitions with fewer than six nationalities may seek the approval of the FIE provided that the FIE rules and safety standards are implemented.~~

c) The competition entries of teams or individuals are only valid if sent by their member federation~~, except as permitted in the 2nd paragraph a) above~~, except in the case of article 1.2.6 e) which is dealt with by the FIE.

d) As an exceptional measure, and in order to develop ~~international~~ Fencing in countries where a National Federation which is a member of the FIE does not yet exist, the member Federations~~, with the agreement of the FIE Bureau,~~ may accept fencers from non-member countries in their national, regional and local competitions, ~~specifying in advance the venue and date of the envisaged events~~.

~~The permission thus granted will have to stress each time that it applies to a match between fencers of one single member Federation and those of one single non-member country.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has changed the wording to make consistency and to cover all possible scenarios.

1.2.6 a) No team or competitor of a member federation has the right to take part in any competition organised by a non-member country or by a "confederation", association, entity or organisation which is not recognised by the FIE ~~and the converse~~.

~~Nevertheless, competitors of countries which are not members of the FIE may be registered for individual competitions organised by member federations, provided that they are F.I.E licensees for the current season. They fence under the banner of the FIE~~

b) ~~All members of member federations are forbidden from taking part in competitions or events organised by an individual or entity which is not recognised by the national federation of their country, unless these competitions or events have been specially authorised by that same federation FIE's Executive Committee.~~

International competitions which are not organized or recognized by a member federation and in which there are more than five nationalities must have the approval of the FIE's Executive Committee, provided that the FIE rules and safety standards are implemented ~~and must appear on the International Calendar.~~ All FIE licensees are forbidden from taking part in such competitions or events.

~~Sub-regional international competitions with fewer than six nationalities may seek the approval of the FIE provided that the FIE rules and safety standards are implemented.~~

c) The competition entries of teams or individuals are only valid if sent by their member federation~~, except as permitted in the 2nd paragraph a) above~~, except in the case of article 1.2.6 e) which is dealt with by the FIE.

d) As an exceptional measure, and in order to develop ~~international~~ Fencing in countries where a National Federation which is a member of the FIE does not yet exist, the member Federations~~, with the agreement of the FIE Bureau,~~ may accept fencers from non-member countries in their national, regional and local competitions, ~~specifying in advance the venue and date of the envisaged events~~.

~~The permission thus granted will have to stress each time that it applies to a match between fencers of one single member Federation and those of one single non-member country.~~

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**Proposal 7**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 1.2.6 e)**

**Motivation:** Former second paragraph of 1.2.6 a) redrafted to detail the process.

e) Fencers from countries without a National Federation affiliated to the FIE may contact their national sports authorities in view of their possible registration in FIE individual official competitions. The corresponding national sport authority may apply for this authorisation to the FIE Executive Committee. The latter will make a final decision on allowing the competitor to take part in a determined list of individual competitions. These competitions cannot include qualifying events for the Olympic Games or zonal championships. The Executive Committee may decide to grant an FIE licence to the fencer for the current season. The fencer competes under the acronym "FIE" and under the banner of the FIE

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees in general with the proposal; but has made some corrections.

e) Fencers from countries without a National Federation affiliated to the FIE may contact their national sports authorities in view of their possible registration in FIE individual official competitions. The ~~corresponding~~ competent national sport authority may apply for this authorisation to the FIE Executive Committee. The latter will make a final decision on allowing the competitor to take part in a determined list of individual competitions. These competitions cannot include qualifying events for the Olympic Games or zonal championships. The Executive Committee may decide to grant an FIE licence to the fencer for the current season. The fencer competes under the acronym "FIE" and under the banner of the FIE.

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**Proposal 8**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 1.2.8**

**Motivation:** Precisions regarding the open tenders. As per the FIE's strategic plan (Goal 1, KPIs, Annual publication of governance audit and compliance scorecards), creation of an Audit Panel in charge of reporting to the Executive Committee on risk management, compliance and governance.

1.2.8 ~~The FIE recognises the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee and the competence of the Commission of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee.~~

a) The FIE and its bodies shall observe open tenders for their major contracts (medium- and long-term commitments, and/or exceeding an amount determined in writing by the FIE President and Treasurer).

b) An Audit Panel of two independent external persons, with financial and legal expertise, is appointed by the Executive Committee to report to the FIE President and Executive Committee on risk management, compliance and governance**.** The Audit Committee has the authority and responsibility to conduct any audit it deems necessary to perform, and such other duties as may be assigned to it by the Executive Committee and President.

Each year, the Audit Panel provides a written report to the Executive Committee and proposes any revisions.

The Audit Panel is appointed for a period of two years. It may be reappointed.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal; however, has made minor grammatical corrections.

1.2.8 ~~The FIE recognises the fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter, the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee and the competence of the Commission of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee.~~

a) The FIE and its bodies shall observe open tenders for their major contracts (medium- and long-term commitments, and/or exceeding an amount determined in writing by the FIE President and Treasurer).

b) An Audit Panel of two independent external persons, with financial and legal expertise, is appointed by the Executive Committee to report to the FIE President and Executive Committee on risk management, compliance and governance**.** The Audit ~~Committee~~ Panel has the authority and responsibility to conduct any audit it deems necessary to perform, and such other duties as may be assigned to it by the Executive Committee and the FIE President.

Each year, the Audit Panel provides a written report to the Executive Committee and proposes any revisions.

The Audit Panel is appointed for a period of two years. It may be reappointed.

**Proposal 9**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 1.3**

**Motivation:** Implementation of the FIE strategic plan, which includes implementation of academies and technical matters such as homologation process.

**1.3 REGISTERED OFFICE**

The registered office of the FIE is located in Lausanne (Switzerland). The Executive Committee may open administrative or technical or operational offices in other cities or countries.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal has no further comments.

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**Proposal 10**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: 1.5.3, 1.5.4, 1.5.5, 1.5.6, 1.5.8**

**Motivation:** These are revisions based on the real situation and implementation of the current practice.

**1.5 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AND WORKING LANGUAGES**

1.5.3 All the official texts of the FIE are rendered in French.

Translation into English and Spanish will be provided~~, under the control of the FIE Executive Committee.~~

Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority.

1.5.4 All official documents ~~communications~~ of the FIE will be available in all three working languages.

Each federation must advise the Head Office of the FIE in which of the FIE working languages it wishes to receive communications.

1.5.5 ~~It is desirable that, as far as possible, p~~Proposals for changes to the Rules, Statutes and official documents must be made in one of the three working languages of the FIE. ~~annexed texts be made in French.~~

~~If a proposal is made in another working language, T~~the FIE will organise ~~be responsible for it's~~ the translation in the other FIE working languages.

1.5.6 At the Congresses, people may speak in any one of the working languages and ~~the Head Office will take the measures necessary to ensure that the participants can enjoy the~~

~~benefit of~~ simultaneous translation will be organised as per the FIE Administrative Rules ~~in the three languages~~.

1.5.8 At the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted in one of the three working languages of the FIE ~~on the basis of the French text only~~.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changes to the text to make sure that the voting can be followed on all three working languages.

**1.5 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AND WORKING LANGUAGES**

1.5.3 All the official texts of the FIE are rendered in French.

Translation into English and Spanish will be provided~~, under the control of the FIE Executive Committee.~~

Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority.

1.5.4 All official documents ~~communications~~ of the FIE will be available in all three working languages.

Each federation must advise the Head Office of the FIE in which of the FIE working languages it wishes to receive communications.

1.5.5 ~~It is desirable that, as far as possible, p~~Proposals for changes to the Rules, Statutes and official documents must be made in one of the three working languages of the FIE. ~~annexed texts be made in French.~~

~~If a proposal is made in another working language,~~ The FIE will organise ~~be responsible for it's~~ the translation in the other FIE working languages.

1.5.6 At the Congresses, people may speak in any one of the three working languages and ~~the Head Office will take the measures necessary to ensure that the participants can enjoy the benefit of~~ simultaneous translation will be organised as per the FIE Administrative Rules ~~in the three languages~~.

1.5.8 At the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted ~~in~~ based on one of the three working languages of the FIE, whilst all the three working languages shall be displayed on a screen ~~on the basis of the French text only~~.

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~~**Proposal 11**~~

~~**Presented by: Legal Commission**~~

~~**Article: 1.5.4**~~

~~**Motivation:** According to the current version of Statutes 1.5.4, all communications of the FIE shall be available in all three working languages. This includes also any email communications, which would make the daily communication complicated. Therefore, the availability of the documents in all three working languages should be restricted to official communication published on the FIE website.~~

~~1.5.4~~

~~All official communications of the FIE appearing on the FIE website will be available in all three working languages.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission withdraws this proposal.

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~~**Proposal 12**~~

~~**Presented by: Legal Commission**~~

~~**Article: 1.5.8**~~

~~**Motivation:** According to the current version of Statutes 1.5.8, at the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted based on the French text only. This is problematic and not in line with the current practice, especially when the original proposal was in English or Spanish.~~

~~We suggest eliminating Article 1.5.8. from the Statutes. Article 1.5.3 ("Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority") sufficiently handles the question of the language priority.~~

~~1.5.8~~

~~At the Congress, votes on decisions will be conducted on the basis of the French text only.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission withdraws this proposal.

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**Proposal 13**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 1.6**

**Motivation:** In line with the common practice of other IFs and in order to diversify and extend FIE's financial resources.

**1.6 FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

The financial resources of the FIE consists of:

Federations' subscriptions

1) Licence fees
3) Fees for the organisation of competitions
4) ~~Television~~ Broadcast and media rights
5) Donations ~~and income from its sponsorship contracts~~
6) Income from sponsorship contracts and programmes
7) Income from commercial contracts, including e-commerce platforms
8) Digital monetization
~~6)~~ 9) Such other resources as may be developed, securing financial sustainability and diversify revenue,

The amounts of the fees above (items 1 to ~~4~~ 3) are determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress for the following season.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some grammatical corrections.

**1.6 FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

The financial resources of the FIE consists of:

2) Federations' subscriptions
3) Licence fees
3) Fees for the organisation of competitions
4) ~~Television~~ Broadcast and media rights
5) Donations ~~and income from its sponsorship contracts~~
6) Income from sponsorship contracts and programmes
7) Income from commercial contracts, including e-commerce platforms
8) Digital monetization
~~6)~~ 9) Such other resources as may be developed, securing financial sustainability and diversify revenue~~,~~.

The amounts of the fees above (items from 1 to ~~4~~ 3) are determined by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress for the following season.

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**Proposal 14**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: Chapter II, preamble**

**Motivation:** In order to make the title official, as it was granted in the past. The process is detailed in new article 2.1.3.

The members of the FIE consist of national Federations, Members of Honour, Honorary Presidents of the FIE and Patrons.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal and has no further questions.

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**Proposal 15**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.1.1**

**Motivation:** The Congress is the body that officially recognizes national federations. The second part of the article is moved to new 2.1.1 f).

**2.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

2.1.1 *Conditions of membership of national federations.*

The FIE is composed of national Federations ~~(Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.)~~ officially recognised by the FIE. ~~the Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country~~.

~~In case that the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE COMEX may adopt interim measures it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension, total or partial, of its membership, with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate, in relation to the National Federation of the NOC. In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be endorsed by the next Congress. The FIE COMEX shall have the right to look for any arrangements for the fencers and referees who had been representing that National Federation.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** From a legal and technical standpoint, we believe it is possible to remove from Article 2.1.1 the recognition of the NOC as a condition for affiliation to the FIE. Theoretically, the FIE holds the exclusive right to determine the conditions the federation applying for membership must meet.

Indeed, the Olympic Charter does not require the FIE to affiliate only with national federations approved by their NOCs. However, removing the above-mentioned condition in Article 2.1.1 exposes us to some risk of being perceived as seeking to evade the authority of the Olympic Movement or refusing to cooperate with it, thereby jeopardizing the FIE's good governance standing. For this reason, the Legal Commission strongly recommends that this amendment not be made without the prior consultation with the IOC's legal department.

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**Proposal 16**

**Presented by: Fencing Association of India**

**Article: 2.1.1**

**Motivation:** Rajeev Mehta, representing Fencing Association of India, respectfully submits this letter for consideration of an important amendment to the FIE Constitution, specifically **Article 2.1.1 under "Conditions of Membership"**, in order to ensure alignment with the **IOC Olympic Charter** and to safeguard the autonomy of fencing governance worldwide.

1. At present, Article 2.1.1 states that the FIE is composed of national federations officially recognised by the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of their country as the sole representatives of fencing. The current provision of FIE Constitution (ARTICLE 2.1.1) is as under: -

> *"2.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP*
> *2.1.1 Conditions of membership of national federations.*
> ***The FIE is composed of national Federations (Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.) officially recognised by the Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country***."

2. However, Rule 28 of the IOC Olympic Charter clearly provides that NOCs must include all national federations affiliated to the International Federations governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games. The relevant provision in the Olympic Charter (Rule 28.1.2) is as under: -

> *"28 Composition of the NOCs**
> *1. Whatever their composition, NOCs must include:*
> *1.1 all IOC members in their country, if any. Such members have the right to vote in the general assemblies of the NOC. In addition, the IOC members in the country referred to in Rule 16.1.1.1 and Rule 16.1.1.2 are ex officio members of the NOC executive body, within which they have the right to vote;*
> *1.2* ***all national federations affiliated to the IFs governing sports included in the programme of the Olympic Games or their representatives;"***

3. Thus, under the IOC Charter, recognition flows from the International Federation to the national federation and thereafter to the NOC, and not the reverse. This creates an inconsistency between the FIE Constitution and the IOC Charter.

4. The reliance on NOC recognition as a condition for FIE membership may result in undue political influence or administrative interference in the functioning of national fencing federations, particularly in countries where NOCs themselves may be subject to political pressures, suspension, or internal disputes. Such a requirement may unintentionally affect the autonomy of fencing governance and expose athletes, federations and referees to decisions driven by non-sporting considerations.

5. Harmonising the FIE Constitution with the Olympic Charter would therefore ensure institutional consistency, uphold the independence of member federations, and protect fencing from political or administrative disruptions at the national level.

6. In light of the above, it is respectfully proposed that Article 2.1.1 of the FIE Constitution be amended to read as follows:

> *"The FIE is composed of national Federations that are recognised by the FIE as the sole governing bodies for fencing in their respective countries in accordance with the IOC Olympic Charter."*

This revised text ensures compliance with IOC Rule 28, clarifies the primacy of FIE recognition, and removes the risk of politically influenced barriers to membership.

7. I therefore request that this proposed amendment be placed before the FIE Executive Committee and, thereafter, before the next FIE Congress for formal consideration. I remain available to provide any further clarifications, legal references, or supporting documentation that the Committee may require.

**2.1.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

**2.1.1 Conditions of membership of national federations.**

The FIE is composed of national Federations ~~(Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.) officially~~ that are recognised by the FIE as the

sole governing bodies for fencing in their respective countries in accordance with the IOC Olympic Charter. ~~Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** We refer to our comment to Proposal No. 15.

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~~**Proposal 17**~~

~~**Presented by: Legal Commission**~~

~~**Article: 2.1.1**~~

~~**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 2.1.1, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.~~

~~English text:~~

~~2.1 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP~~

~~2.1.1 Conditions of membership of national federations.~~

~~The FIE is composed of national Federations (Federations, Unions, Fencing Sections, National Sports Organisations etc.) officially recognised by the Olympic Committee of their country as the only representatives of fencing in their country.~~

~~In case that Where the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE COMEX may adopt interim measures it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension, total or partial, of its membership, with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate, in relation to the National Federation of the NOC. In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be endorsed by the next Congress. The FIE COMEX shall have the right to look for any arrangements for the fencers and referees who had been representing that National Federation.~~

~~a) Qualification In order to qualify as a member of the FIE a National Federation must have a sufficient number of attached fencers and prove that its Statutes do not clash with the Fundamental Rules of the FIE Statutes - being chapters 1-7 of these Statutes - (except with respect to official and working languages).~~

~~The National Federation must have an independent role in accordance with the principles of the Olympic Charter.~~

~~The FIE recognises that the National Federation may include fencing masters.~~

~~These latter may nevertheless not hold the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary general or Treasurer or any equivalent position.~~

~~By fencing master is meant a person whose principal activity is the teaching or practicing of fencing in return for payment~~

~~b) Application for membership~~

~~The practical process of affiliation requests is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, chapter 8 "Membership of a national federation". A National Federation which wishes to be made a member of the FIE can present an application to the Executive Committee of the FIE. This application must be~~

accompanied by a declaration from the National Olympic Committee, certifying that this group is the only one officially recognised by that committee to govern fencing in their country.

In a case of dispute between two or more groups each desiring to represent their country as a member of the FIE, the Executive Committee of the FIE will be called upon to decide, which to recognise, after consulting the National Olympic Committee concerned.

*French text:*

*2.1 CONDITIONS D'ADHESION DES MEMBRES*

*2.1.1 Conditions d'affiliation des fédérations nationales La FIE se compose de "fédérations nationales" (Fédérations, Unions, Sections d'Escrime, d'Organisations Sportives Nationales, etc…) officiellement reconnues par le Comité Olympique de leur pays comme étant le seul représentant du pays pour l'escrime.*

*Au cas où le CIO aurait pris des mesures de sanction ou d'injonction à l'endroit d'un CNO dans le but de protéger le mouvement olympique et à cause d'infractions à la Charte olympique, le Comité exécutif de la FIE peut adopter les mesures provisoires qu'il juge appropriées pour protéger les principes et les valeurs qui sous-tendent ses statuts, y compris la suspension totale ou partielle de son statut de membre, avec les effets et la portée jugés adéquats, en rapport avec la fédération nationale de ce CNO.*

*Dans tous les cas, la mesure en question ne sera adoptée qu'après que la fédération nationale concernée ait eu la possibilité de se faire entendre, et elle devra être entérinée par le prochain Congrès de la FIE. Le Comité exécutif de la FIE se réserve le droit de rechercher tous arrangements pour les tireurs et les arbitres qui ont représenté cette fédération nationale.*

*a) Qualification*

*Une fédération nationale doit, pour pouvoir être affiliée à la FIE, justifier d'un nombre suffisant d'escrimeurs adhérents et justifier de statuts qui ne soient pas en opposition avec les règles fondamentales des Statuts de la FIE - chapitres 1-7 de ces Statuts - (sauf en ce qui concerne la langue officielle et les langues de travail). La Fédération nationale devra avoir un fonctionnement indépendant conformément aux principes de la Charte Olympique.*

*La FIE reconnaît que les fédérations nationales peuvent également comprendre des professeurs ou des maîtres d'armes.*

*Ces derniers ne peuvent cependant pas occuper les postes de Président, vice-président, Secrétaire général, Trésorier ou tout poste équivalent.*

*On entend par professeur ou maître d'arme toute personne dont l'activité principale est d'enseigner ou de pratiquer l'escrime moyennant rémunération.*

*b) Demande d'affiliation*

*Les modalités pratiques de demandes d'affiliation figurent au Règlement administratif de la FIE, chapitre 8 « Affiliation d'une fédération nationale. Toute fédération nationale qui souhaite devenir membre de la FIE peut en présenter la demande au Comité Exécutif accompagné d'une déclaration du comité olympique national certifiant que ce groupe est le seul officiellement reconnu par ce comité pour régir l'escrime dans ce pays.*

*En cas d'opposition entre deux ou plusieurs groupements souhaitant être le représentant de leur pays comme membre de la FIE, le Comité Exécutif de la FIE tranchera après consultation du comité national olympique concerné.*

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission withdraws this proposal.

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**Proposal 18**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.1.1 a)**

Motivation: In order to include governance into the requirements.

a) ~~Qualification~~ Requirements

In order ~~to qualify~~ to become a member of the FIE ~~as a member of the FIE~~ a National Federation must:

- demonstrate effective and genuine governance of fencing within its country;
- have a sufficient number of attached fencers, clubs, officials and coaches (as per article 8.4 of the FIE Administrative rules);
- have adopted Statutes including democratic elections and have implemented good governance and transparency principles;
- ~~and~~ prove that its Statutes do not clash with the Fundamental Rules of the FIE Statutes - being chapters 1-7 of these Statutes - (except with respect to official and working languages).;
- ~~The National Federation must~~ have an independent role in accordance with the principles of the Olympic Charter.

The FIE recognises that the National Federation may include fencing masters.
These latter may nevertheless not hold the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary general or Treasurer or any equivalent position.
By fencing master is meant a person whose principal activity is the teaching of fencing in return for payment

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees in general with the proposal; but has made some corrections.

a) ~~Qualification~~ Requirements

In order ~~to qualify~~ to become a member of the FIE ~~as a member of the FIE~~ a National Federation must:

- demonstrate effective and genuine ~~governance~~ direction of fencing within its country;
- have a sufficient number of attached fencers, clubs, officials and coaches (as per article 8.4 of the FIE Administrative rules);
- have adopted Statutes including democratic elections and have implemented good governance and transparency principles;
- ~~and~~ prove that its Statutes do not clash with the Fundamental Rules of the FIE Statutes - being chapters 1-7 of these Statutes - (except with respect to official and working languages).;
- ~~The National Federation must~~ have an independent role in accordance with the principles of the Olympic Charter.

The FIE recognises that the National Federation may include fencing masters.

These latter may nevertheless not hold the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary general or Treasurer or any equivalent position.
By fencing master is meant a person whose principal activity is the teaching of fencing in return for payment

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**Proposal 19**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.1.1 b)**

**Motivation:** In line with the Olympic Charter, the IFs decide on the recognition of a national federation. Besides, the FIE consults the national sport authorities.

b) Application for membership

The practical process of affiliation requests is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, chapter 8 “Membership of a national federation”. A National Federation which wishes to be made a member of the FIE can present an application to the Executive Committee of the FIE. This application must include:

- the applicant federation’s statutes and regulations;
- proof of sporting activity (sufficient number of attached clubs, fencers and officials) and governance structure;
- evidence that the applicant federation is the only national fencing federation in the country or the federation comprising the largest number of national fencers, coaches, clubs, fencing organisations and officials;
- any additional documentation required by the Executive Committee.

~~be accompanied by a declaration from the National Olympic Committee, certifying that this group is the only one officially recognised by to govern fencing in their country.~~

Where two or more organisations claim to represent fencing in the same country, whether at the time of applying for membership or during the course of membership, the FIE shall have exclusive authority to determine which organisation shall be recognised as the Member Federation, irrespective of whether any such organisation is recognised by the National Olympic Committee or any other national body. The Executive Committee shall take into account which applicant federation represents the largest number of national fencers, coaches, clubs, fencing organisations and officials.

In such cases:

1. The Executive Committee shall conduct an independent assessment of the organisations concerned.

2. All parties shall be given the opportunity to be heard.

3. The Executive Committee shall take a reasoned decision based on the best interests of fencing and compliance with the FIE Statutes.

4. The decision shall be subject to ratification by the next Congress.

The FIE may adopt interim measures necessary to protect athletes, referees and sporting activities pending a final decision.

In a case of dispute between two or more groups, each desiring to represent their country as a member of the FIE, the FIE Executive Committee will be called upon to decide which to recognise~~, after consulting the National Olympic Committee concerned~~.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** Regarding the text indicated with yellow, we refer to our comment to Proposal Nr. 15.

b) Application for membership

The practical process of affiliation requests is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, chapter 8 “Membership of a national federation”. A National Federation which wishes to be made a member of the FIE can present an application to the Executive Committee of the FIE. This application must include:

- the applicant federation’s statutes and regulations;
- proof of sporting activity (sufficient number of attached clubs, fencers and officials) and governance structure;
- evidence that the applicant federation is the only national fencing federation in the country or the federation comprising the largest number of national fencers, coaches, clubs, fencing organisations and officials;
- any additional documentation required by the Executive Committee.

~~be accompanied by a declaration from the National Olympic Committee, certifying that this group is the only one officially recognised by to govern fencing in their country.~~

Where two or more organisations claim to represent fencing in the same country, whether at the time of applying for membership or during the course of membership, the FIE shall have exclusive authority to determine which organisation shall be recognised as the Member Federation, irrespective of whether any such organisation is recognised by the National Olympic Committee or any other national body. The Executive Committee shall take into account which applicant federation represents the largest number of national fencers, coaches, clubs, fencing organisations and officials.

In such cases:

1. The Executive Committee shall conduct an independent assessment of the organisations concerned.

2. All parties shall be given the opportunity to be heard.

3. The Executive Committee shall take a reasoned decision based on the best interests of fencing and compliance with the FIE Statutes.

4. The decision shall be subject to ratification by the next Congress.

The FIE may adopt interim measures necessary to protect athletes, referees and sporting activities pending a final decision.

In a case of dispute between two or more groups, each desiring to represent their country as a member of the FIE, the FIE Executive Committee will be called upon to decide which to recognise~~, after consulting the National Olympic Committee concerned~~.

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**Proposal 20**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.1.1 c)**

**Motivation:** Precision.

c) Enrolment

At each of its meetings the Congress rules on applications for membership.

The Executive Committee has the right to accept provisionally, until the next Congress, a National Federation which has successfully applied.

When a National Federation is a provisional member it benefits from the same rights and has the same obligations as any other member federation, except the right to vote which is only granted upon full affiliation by the Congress.

A refusal for permanent membership by the Congress does not allow any grounds for compensation.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changes for better understanding.

c) Enrolment

At each of its meetings the Congress rules on applications for membership.

The Executive Committee has the right to accept provisionally, until the next Congress, a National Federation which according to the Executive Committee meets the criteria defined under a) above ~~under has successfully applied~~.

When a National Federation is a provisional member it benefits from the same rights and has the same obligations as any other member federation, except the right to vote which is only granted upon full affiliation by the Congress.

A refusal for permanent membership by the Congress does not allow any grounds for compensation.

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**Proposal 21**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.1.1 d)**

**Motivation:** To specify the reasons and consequences.

d) Suspension

National Federations may be suspended for the following reasons:

- serious internal governance conflicts affecting the functioning of the federation;
- irregularities in elections or governance processes;
- financial or administrative mismanagement;
- discrimination on any ground;
- failure to comply with the Statutes, regulations, or decisions of the FIE;
- conduct seriously prejudicial to the interests or reputation of the FIE.

Decision is made by the Executive Committee.

The consequences of the suspension of a National Federation are the following:

- no voting right at the Congress
- no right to make proposals or nominations for office

The Executive Committee shall determine the reinstatement of the Member Federation, once the reasons for suspension have been resolved.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changes to ensure good governance.

d) Suspension

National Federations may be suspended for the following reasons:

- serious internal governance conflicts affecting the functioning of the federation;
- irregularities in elections or governance processes;
- financial or administrative mismanagement;
- discrimination on any ground such as, but not limited to, race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status;
- failure to comply with the Statutes, regulations, or decisions of the FIE;
- conduct seriously prejudicial to the interests or reputation of the FIE.

Decision is made by the Executive Committee after giving the opportunity to the affected Member Federation to be heard. This decision shall be subject to ratification by the next Congress.

The consequences of the suspension of a National Federation are the following:

- no voting right at the Congress
- no right to make proposals or nominations for office

The Executive Committee shall determine the reinstatement of the Member Federation, once the reasons for suspension have been resolved.

**Proposal 22**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.1.1 e)**

**Motivation:** All the details and consequences are missing in the current version of the Statutes.

d) e) Loss of membership

The member federations may lose their membership of the FIE:

- by resignation

Any Member Federation wishing to resign its membership, must inform the FIE Secretary General by email with proof of receipt.

Unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee, resignation shall take effect immediately upon receipt by the Secretary General.

Resignation shall not release the member federation from its financial or other obligations towards the FIE arising prior to the effective date of termination.

- by expulsion

The Congress has the power to expel a Member Federation for any reason, based on a proposal from the Executive Committee.

Expulsion may in particular be decided where a member federation:

- seriously or repeatedly breaches the Statutes, regulations or decisions of the FIE;
- has failed during three years to fulfil its financial obligations towards the FIE;
- no longer fulfils the statutory conditions for membership;
- acts in a manner contrary to the interests, objectives, integrity or reputation of the FIE or of fencing;
- fails to comply with decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport or disciplinary bodies of the FIE.

The above list is non-exhaustive and does not limit the power of the Congress to expel a member federation for any reason.

Before any decision on expulsion is taken:

- the Member Federation shall be notified in writing of the proposed expulsion;
- it shall be granted a reasonable opportunity to submit written observations in advance of the Congress at which its suspension is to be decided;
- it shall have the right to be heard at the Congress.

The Congress may validly proceed with the expulsion of a Member Federation that fails to submit written observations or attend the Congress after due notice.

Expulsion shall result in the immediate loss of all membership rights. Namely, a Member Federation excluded from the FIE is not entitled to participate in any activity within the FIE or within the Continental Confederations.

Any financial obligations or other commitments to the FIE incurred prior to resignation or expulsion shall remain payable in full.

**Re-affiliation**

A National Federation wishing to be reaffiliated to the FIE must meet the same requirements and follow the same procedure as for the affiliation of a new National Federation.

If a National Federation has been expelled for financial reasons, it must pay any amounts outstanding, plus a fine of 10 % (ten percent) before re-admission can be considered.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changes to ensure good governance.

d) e) Loss of membership

The member federations may lose their membership of the FIE:

- by resignation

Any Member Federation wishing to resign its membership~~,~~ must inform the FIE Secretary General by email with proof of receipt.

Unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee, resignation shall take effect immediately upon receipt by the Secretary General.

Resignation shall not release the member federation from its financial or other obligations towards the FIE arising prior to the effective date of termination.

- by expulsion

The Congress has the power to expel a Member Federation ~~for any reason,~~ based on a proposal from the Executive Committee.

Expulsion may ~~in particular~~ be decided where a member federation:

- seriously or repeatedly breaches the Statutes, regulations or decisions of the FIE;
- has failed during three years to fulfil its financial obligations towards the FIE;
- no longer fulfils the statutory conditions for membership;
- acts in a manner contrary to the interests, objectives, integrity or reputation of the FIE or of fencing;
- fails to comply with decisions of the Court of Arbitration for Sport or disciplinary bodies of the FIE.

~~The above list is non-exhaustive and does not limit the power of the Congress to expel a member federation for any reason.~~

Before any decision on expulsion is taken:

- the Member Federation shall be notified in writing of the proposed expulsion;

- it shall be granted a reasonable opportunity to submit written observations in advance of the Congress at which its suspension is to be decided;
- it shall have the right to be heard at the Congress.

The Congress may validly proceed with the expulsion of a Member Federation that fails to submit written observations or attend the Congress after due notice.

Expulsion shall result in the immediate loss of all membership rights. Namely, a Member Federation excluded from the FIE is not entitled to participate in any activity within the FIE or within the Continental Confederations.

Any financial obligations or other commitments to the FIE incurred prior to resignation or expulsion shall remain payable in full.

**Re-affiliation**

A National Federation wishing to be reaffiliated to the FIE must meet the same requirements and follow the same procedure as for the affiliation of a new National Federation.

If a National Federation has been expelled for financial reasons, it must pay any amounts outstanding, plus a fine of 10 % (ten percent) before re-admission can be considered.

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**Proposal 23**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.1.1 f)**

**Motivation:** Moved from 2.1.1 to new 2.1.1 f)

f) IOC measures

In case that the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE COMEX may adopt interim measures it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension, total or partial, of its membership, with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate, in relation to the National Federation of the NOC. In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be endorsed by the next Congress. The FIE Executive Committee shall have the right to look for any arrangements for the fencers and referees who had been representing that National Federation.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made minor changes for better understanding. The French version should be reviewed.

f) IOC measures

Where ~~In case that~~ the IOC has taken measures of sanction or injunction against a NOC for the protection of the Olympic movement and because of Olympic Charter violations, the FIE Executive Committee ~~COMEX~~ may adopt interim measures with respect to the National Federation of the NOC which it considers appropriate in defence of the principles and values underlying its statutes, including the suspension~~, total or partial,~~ of ~~its~~

membership of such National Federation, with the consequences and scope they deem appropriate~~, in relation to the National Federation of the NOC~~. In any case, the measure shall be adopted after the affected national Federation has the opportunity to be heard and must be ~~endorsed~~ ratified by the next Congress. The FIE Executive Committee shall have the right to implement ~~look for~~ any arrangements for the fencers and referees who had been representing that National Federation.

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**Proposal 24**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: 2.1.3**

**Motivation:** This is the process that was announced in the proposal related to Chapter II, preamble.

2.1.3 *Honorary President of the FIE*

The Bureau may single outgoing and former Presidents of the FIE with the intention of proposing to the Congress their nomination as Honorary Presidents of the FIE.

The Bureau must seek the approval of the Executive Committee before presenting its proposal to the Honours Commission at the Congress.

The Honorary Presidents of the FIE have the right to be present at all the Executive Committee sessions and Congress meetings.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made a minor change.

2.1.3 *Honorary President of the FIE*

The Bureau may ~~single~~ propose the nomination of outgoing and former Presidents of the FIE ~~with the intention of proposing~~ to the Congress ~~their nomination~~ as Honorary Presidents of the FIE.

The Bureau must seek the approval of the Executive Committee before presenting its proposal to the Honours Commission at the Congress.

The Honorary Presidents of the FIE have the right to be present at all the Executive Committee sessions and Congress meetings.

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**Proposal 25**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.1.3**

**Motivation:** Result of the proposal on new article 2.1.3

2.1.3 Patrons must be renumbered 2.1.4

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comments.

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**Proposal 26**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 2.2.1**

**Motivation:** Making this article more structured with rights and obligations.

**2.2 RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS**

2.2.1 *Rights and duties of member Federations*

Each Member Federation has the right:

a) ~~Each member Federation has the right~~ to vote in Congresses of the FIE, provided it has fulfilled its financial obligations (cf. article 3.3.2)

b) ~~Each member Federation has the right~~ to present its candidates for the different bodies of the FIE (see chapter 4).

c) ~~They also have the right~~ to draw up proposals which may be submitted to the Congress in accordance with the processes described in chapters 3.4 and 5.5.

d) The Presidents of all the ~~m~~Member ~~f~~Federations are recognised as delegates of the FIE in their respective countries.

e) They represent the President of the FIE in all international events of their respective federation every time that the President himself or his delegate is unable to attend.

Each Member Federation is under an obligation:

~~d) Each member federation is under an obligation~~ a) to ensure on its territory respect for the rules and statutes of the FIE when events are organised under its auspices.

~~e) Furthermore each member federation must~~ b) to ensure that its own Statutes do not clash with the Fundamental Rules in these Statutes (cf.2.1.1).

~~f)~~ – c) to ensure that official ~~Official~~ documents issued by ~~a~~ ~~National~~ Member Federations shall be signed by the President or the Secretary General or equivalent. It is within the internal governance of the National Federations to determine whether specific documents require the approval of ~~their~~ its Board.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changes for better understanding.

## 2.2 RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

2.2.1 *Rights and duties of member Federations*

~~Each member federation has the right:~~

a) Each member Federation has the right to vote in Congresses of the FIE, provided they have fulfilled their financial obligations (cf. A~~a~~rticle 3.3.2)

b) Each member Federation has the right to present its candidates for the different bodies of the FIE (see chapter 4).

c) They also have the right to draw up proposals which may be submitted to the Congress in accordance with the processes described in chapters 3.4 and 5.5.

d) The Presidents of all the member federations are recognised as delegates of the FIE in their respective countries.

e) They represent the President of the FIE in all international events of their respective federation every time that the President himself or his delegate is unable to attend.

Each member Federation is under an obligation:

~~d) Each member federation is under an obligation~~ a) to ensure on its territory respect for the Statutes and the R~~r~~ules ~~and statutes~~ of the FIE when events are organised under its auspices.

~~e) Furthermore each member federation must~~ b) to ensure that its own Statutes do not ~~clash~~ in conflict with the Fundamental Rules in these Statutes (cf.2.1.1).

~~f)~~ – c) to ensure that its official ~~Official~~ documents issued by ~~a~~ ~~National~~ Member Federations ~~shall be~~ are signed by the President or the Secretary General or equivalent. It is within the internal governance of the National Federations to determine whether specific documents require the approval of their Board.

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**Proposal 27**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.3, 2.3.4, 2.3.5**

**Motivation:** Redrafting of the section. The list of recognized confederations should not only be in the section related to the Executive Committee (article 5.2.4).

## 2.3 ZONAL CONFEDERATIONS

~~In order that a Confederation~~

~~be recognized by the FIE, it is necessary that their statutes provide that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio member of their executive committee. As such, he has the right to vote.~~

2.3.1 FIE member Federations may be grouped according to geographic areas into "Zonal Confederations" in order to establish and enhance relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves.

The Zonal Confederations are not, themselves, members of the FIE.

2.3.2 The Zonal Confederations recognized by the FIE are: Europe, Africa, Oceania, Pan-American and Asia.

2.3.3 Confederations seeking recognition by the FIE Congress:

- Must include in their statutes that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio member of their executive committee. As such, he has the right to vote.
- Must have no provisions in their rules or statutes contrary to those of the FIE. In the case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Statutes and Rules of the FIE and those of a Zonal Confederation, those of the FIE have priority.
- Must only include FIE Member federations.
- May choose whatever language they prefer as official language for their internal relations.

2.3.4 They may ask to be recognized by the first FIE Congress that follows their formation, after submission of their Statutes.

~~2.3.1 The FIE will allow some member federations to group themselves according to geographic areas into "Confederations" in order to control relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves~~

~~(1) Footnote: Zonal Confederations as in 1999.~~

~~2.3.2 These Zonal Confederations may only include member federations. The Zonal Confederations are not, themselves, members of the FIE~~

~~2.3.3 They may have no rules or statutes contrary to those of the FIE. In the case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Statutes and Rules of the FIE and those of a Zonal Confederation, those of the FIE have priority.~~

~~2.3.4 They may ask to be recognized by the first FIE Congress that follows their formation, after submission of their Statutes.~~

~~2.3.5 Zonal Confederations may choose whatever language they like as official language for their internal relations.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changes for better understanding.

**2.3 ZONAL CONFEDERATIONS**

~~In order that a Confederation be recognized by the FIE, it is necessary that their statutes provide that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio member of their executive committee. As such, he has the right to vote.~~

2.3.1 FIE member Federations may be grouped according to geographic areas into "Zonal Confederations" in order to establish and enhance relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves.

The Zonal Confederations are not, themselves, members of the FIE.

2.3.2 The Zonal Confederations recognized by the FIE are: -European Fencing Confederation, African Fencing Confederation, Oceania Fencing Confederation, Pan-American Fencing Confederation and Fencing Confederation of Asia.

2.3.3 Zonal Confederations seeking recognition by the FIE Congress:

- Must include in their statutes that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio voting member of their executive committee. ~~As such, he has the right to vote.~~
- Must have no provisions in their rules or statutes contrary to those of the FIE. In the case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Statutes and Rules of the FIE and those of a Zonal Confederation, those of the FIE have priority.
- Must only include FIE Member federations.
- May choose whatever language they prefer as official language for their internal relations.

2.3.4 They may ask to be recognized by the first FIE Congress that follows their formation, after submission of their Statutes.

~~2.3.1 The FIE will allow some member federations to group themselves according to geographic areas into "Confederations" in order to control relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves~~

~~(1) Footnote: Zonal Confederations as in 1999.~~

~~2.3.2 These Zonal Confederations may only include member federations. The Zonal Confederations are not, themselves, members of the FIE~~

~~2.3.3 They may have no rules or statutes contrary to those of the FIE. In the case of disagreement in the interpretation of the Statutes and Rules of the FIE and those of a Zonal Confederation, those of the FIE have priority.~~

~~2.3.4 They may ask to be recognized by the first FIE Congress that follows their formation, after submission of their Statutes.~~

~~2.3.5 Zonal Confederations may choose whatever language they like as official language for their internal relations.~~

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**Proposal 28**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 2.3.1**

**Motivation:** The actual wording of Article 2.3.1 refers to list of 1999, and there is no footnote. Therefore, 'footnote' reference should be deleted.

*2.3.1 ZONAL CONFEDERATIONS*

*In order that a Confederation be recognized by the FIE, it is necessary that their statutes provide that the President of the FIE is an ex-officio member of their executive committee. As such, he has the right to vote.*

*2.3.1 The FIE will allow some member federations to group themselves according to geographic areas into "Confederations" in order to control relationships which they think they can usefully establish among themselves*

~~*(1) Footnote: Zonal Confederations as in 1999.*~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comment to its proposal.

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**Proposal 29**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.1 c) d) e)**

**Motivation:** The conditions for the organisation of Congress are detailed in the Administrative rules. Emergency situations should be taken into account. Removal of the vote by fax, which is generally no longer used.

**3.1 MEETINGS**

c) The place and the date of a congress is ~~established~~ determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with the corresponding provisions of the FIE Administrative Rules. ~~in a city offering convenient air and rail links as well as lodging opportunities~~.

d) In case of a force majeure event, or in case of emergency or significant budgetary issues of the FIE, the Congress may hold meetings and take decisions via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means.

e) In a matter of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including ~~by fax and/or~~ electronic mail or by any other appropriate electronic means, of the members of the FIE by the President or the Executive Committee. The required majorities set forth in the Statutes shall apply to these resolutions and decisions.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some grammatical corrections.

**3.1 MEETINGS**

c) The place and the date of a C~~c~~ongress is ~~established~~ determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with the corresponding provisions of the FIE Administrative Rules. ~~in a city offering convenient air and rail links as well as lodging opportunities~~.

d) In case of a force majeure event, or in case of emergency or significant budgetary issues of the FIE, the Congress may hold meetings and take decisions via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means.

e) In a matter of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted to a vote by correspondence, including by ~~by fax and/or~~ electronic mail or by any other appropriate electronic means, of the members of the FIE by the President or the Executive

Committee. The required majorities set forth in the Statutes shall apply to these resolutions and decisions.

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**Proposal 30**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 3.2.3**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 3.2.3, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

3.2.3 The Congress establishes, controls and steers the general policy of the FIE. It determines the modifications to be made to the Statutes~~,~~ and the Rules for the competitions. It has the power to pronounce the dissolution of the FIE.

*French text:*

3.2.3 Le Congrès définit, contrôle et oriente la politique générale de la FIE Il décide des modifications à apporter aux Statuts et au Règlement des épreuves. Il a le pouvoir de prononcer la dissolution de la FIE.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no more comments to its proposal.

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**Proposal 31**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.3.1**

**Motivation:** Introduce the possibility of postponing the deadline in case of force majeure situations.

**3.3 COMPOSITION AND REPRESENTATION**

3.3.1 The FIE ~~m~~Member Federations may be represented at a FIE Congress by 2 delegates. Members of the Executive Committee, the Commissions, the permanent councils ("Councils") and of the Ethics Committee have the right to take part in the Congress.

At FIE Elective Congresses, the FIE ~~m~~Member Federations may be represented by 2 delegates. In addition, the following individuals have the right to take part in FIE Elective Congresses:

- current members of the Executive Committee
- current presidents of commissions, councils and committees
- candidates to elected positions

All participants in the FIE Congresses must be registered by their national federation, 40 calendar days, at 23:55 Lausanne time, before the opening day of the Congress and using the platform or tool that will be made available by the FIE. In case of force majeure, the FIE Executive Committee can approve the postponement of the deadline and/or accept late registrations, for valid reasons. It will inform all federations.
The authority to vote for a member Federation is determined by ~~limited to~~ its President or any other person designated by him in writing.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made changes for better understanding.

### 3.3 COMPOSITION AND REPRESENTATION

3.3.1 The FIE member Federations may be represented at a FIE Congress by 2 delegates. Members of the Executive Committee, the Commissions, the permanent councils ("Councils") and of the Ethics Committee have the right to take part in the Congress.

At FIE Elective Congresses, the FIE member Federations may be represented by 2 delegates. In addition, the following individuals have the right to take part in FIE Elective Congresses:

- current members of the Executive Committee
- current presidents of commissions, councils and committees
- candidates to elected positions

All participants in the FIE Congresses must be registered by their national federation, 40 calendar days, at 23:55 hrs Lausanne time, before the opening day of the Congress and using the platform or tool that will be made available by the FIE. In case of force majeure, the FIE Executive Committee can approve the postponement of the deadline and/or accept late registrations, for valid reasons. It will inform all federations.
The authority to vote for a member Federation is ~~determined by~~ limited to its President or any other person designated by him in writing.

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**Proposal 32**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.3.2**

**Motivation:** An increasing number of federations do not have the possibility to make bank transfers.

3.3.2 Member federations must have fulfilled all their financial obligations towards the FIE at the latest the day before the opening day of the Congress.

When a Member Federation has not fulfilled its financial obligations towards the FIE ~~30 calendar days (00:00 hrs Lausanne time)~~ the day before the opening day of the Congress, such Member Federation will be prohibited from being represented at the said Congress and from voting. ~~unless exception has been made for a valid reason and accepted by the Executive Committee and such reason shall be announced to the Congress.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made changes for better understanding

3.3.2 Member ~~f~~Federations must have fulfilled all their financial obligations towards the FIE by 23:55 hrs (time zone where the Congress is held) ~~at the latest~~ the day before the opening of the Congress.

When a Member Federation has not complied with the above, ~~fulfilled its financial obligations towards the FIE 30 calendar days (00:00 hrs Lausanne time) the day before the opening day of the Congress, such Member Federation~~ it will be prohibited from being represented at the said Congress and from voting. ~~unless exception has been made for a valid reason and accepted by the Executive Committee and such reason shall be announced to the Congress.~~

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**Proposal 33**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.3.3**

**Motivation:** Federations which receive a proxy must be up to date with their financial obligations towards the FIE.

3.3.3 *Proxies and mandates*

a) The right to vote at a Congress can be delegated to another federation. This proxy must be signed by the President, Secretary General or equivalent of the Member Federation, and the mandate can be imperative for all statutory modifications.

In no instance may a proxy agent have more than one mandate for another Member Federation.

b) The only valid proxies are those;

- received by the FIE twenty-four (24) hours before the opening of the Congress, except as permitted, within twelve (12) hours of the opening of the Congress, by the Bureau, in its reasonable discretion, upon showing proof of unavoidable delay in issuing of the proxy.

- given or received by Member federations which have fulfilled all their financial obligations towards the FIE at the latest the day before the opening day of the Congress.

c) When a Member Federation has already received a proxy, and now receives another proxy from another Member Federation, it must inform the latter that it cannot accept the proxy.

d) Every proxy may identify one or several other Member Federations who could receive that proxy, in order of preference, should the Member Federation receiving the proxy be prevented from taking it.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some minor changes.

3.3.3 *Proxies and mandates*

a) The right to vote at a Congress can be delegated to another federation. This proxy must be signed by the President, Secretary General or equivalent of the Member Federation, and the mandate can be imperative for all statutory modifications.

In no instance may a proxy agent have more than one mandate for another Member Federation.

b) The only valid proxies are those~~,~~:

- received by the FIE twenty-four (24) hours before the opening of the Congress, except as permitted, within twelve (12) hours of the opening of the Congress, by the Bureau, in its reasonable discretion, upon showing proof of unavoidable delay in issuing of the proxy.

- given ~~or~~ and received by Member ~~f~~Federations that comply with Article 3.3.2. ~~which have fulfilled all their financial obligations towards the FIE at the latest the day before the opening day of the Congress.~~

c) When a Member Federation has already received a proxy, and now receives another proxy from another Member Federation, it must inform the latter that it cannot accept the proxy.

d) Every proxy may identify one or several other Member Federations who could receive that proxy, in order of preference, should the Member Federation receiving the proxy be prevented from taking it.

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**Proposal 34**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.4.1**

**Motivation:** Clarification on the time as the term “midnight” is not always understood.

**3.4 AGENDA**

3.4.1 All the proposals and requests shall reach the FIE’s head office no later than 23h55 ~~midnight~~ Lausanne time 8 months before the opening day of the next Congress.

Any proposal reaching the head office after this date cannot be put on the agenda.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changed for consistency.

**3.4 AGENDA**

3.4.1 All the proposals and requests shall reach the FIE’s head office no later than 23h55 ~~midnight~~ Lausanne time 8 months before the opening day of the next Congress.

Any proposal reaching the head office after this date cannot be put on the agenda, save for Article 3.5.1.

**Proposal 35**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.4.5**

**Motivation:** Clarification of that article which was not up to date.

3.4.5 The CEO or any other person given the responsibility will announce the article or the item on the agenda which will be voted upon.

In case the text of a proposal is modified ~~At~~ at the end of ~~the~~ a discussion ~~on each item of the agenda~~, the CEO or any other person given the responsibility will announce the precise text which will be voted upon.

~~After the vote, the definitive text will be confirmed and recorded.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 36**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.5**

**Motivation:** The definitions are missing in the Statutes.

**3.5 DECISIONS**

The following definitions apply:

Votes cast: the total number of votes received, not counting abstentions.

Simple majority of the votes cast: when a proposal or candidate receives more votes than any other option, not counting abstentions.

Absolute majority of the votes cast: more than 50% of votes cast, not counting abstentions.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** In order to be consistent, the Legal Commission has introduced further definitions.

**3.5 DECISIONS**

The following definitions apply:

~~Votes cast: the total number of votes received, not counting abstentions.~~

Simple majority of the votes cast: when a proposal or candidate receives more votes than any other option, not counting abstentions.

Absolute majority of the votes cast: more than 50% of votes cast, not counting abstentions.

Majority of 2/3 of the votes cast: more than 2/3 of votes cast, not counting abstentions.

Majority of 3/4 of votes cast: more than 3/4 of votes cast, not counting abstentions.

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**Proposal 37**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.5.1**

**Motivation:** If the proposal on article 1.6 is accepted.

3.5.1 *Required majorities*

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority of votes cast. The simple majority of votes cast applies as well to the establishment of the federations' subscriptions (cf. item 1 of article 1.6 of the Statutes). ~~The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changes for the consistency of the wording of the Statutes.

**Article: 3.5.1 a)**

3.5.1 *Required majorities*

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority of votes cast, unless otherwise stated in the Statutes. The simple majority of votes cast applies as well to the establishment of the federations' subscriptions (cf. item 1 of ~~a~~Article 1.6 of the Statutes). ~~The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast.~~

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**Proposal 38**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article 3.5**

**Motivation:** In the practice when calculating majority of votes cast for the decisions of the Congress, abstentions are also included. Nevertheless, this is not clearly indicated in the Statutes. Article 6.2.2 already contains such clarification regarding the election of the President of the Commissions. The aim of the induction of new 3.5.7 is to make this clarification also for the Congress decisions.

3.5 DECISIONS

3.5.1 Required majorities

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority of votes cast. The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast.

b) If in exceptional cases the Congress is requested to decide on matters which are not on the agenda,

(i) these matters shall be added to the agenda by the FIE Bureau if they concern the budget, the accounts, the auditors, the report of the Executive Committee and the report of the Congress. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a simple majority of votes cast.

(ii) all matters not mentioned in Section (i) above require a majority of 3/4 of votes cast decision to be added to the agenda. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a majority of 3/4 votes cast.

(iii) matters under this section b) may never involve a modification of the Statutes.

c) In all cases, the total number of votes cast must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.

3.5.2 Quorums

The deliberations of the Congress are only valid if more than 50% of all the members of the FIE are present or represented.

If this proportion is not achieved, the Congress is dissolved and it will be convened again within a period of six months at most. On this occasion it will deliberate validly whatever the number of votes represented.

3.5.3 The Congress decisions concerning modifications to the Statutes are valid with a majority of 2/3 of the votes cast. The decisions of the Congress concerning the modifications of the Rules are valid with a simple majority of the votes cast. The total number of votes cast must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.

3.5.4 Dissolution

The dissolution of the F.I.E may only be pronounced with a majority of ¾ of the votes of the federations present or represented.

3.5.5 Right to vote

Every Member Federation is entitled to one vote for all voting.

3.5.6 Secret voting

At the Congress the vote is secret on any point which concerns an individual person or a Member Federation in particular, or on the decision of the Chairman of the meeting, or at the request of at least 25% of the members present.

3.5.7 Calculation of the majority of the votes cast

For the purpose of Article 3.5, abstentions shall also be considered when determining the number of votes cast.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has changed its original proposal for the consistency of the wording of the Statutes and to be in line with the proposal No. 36 of the Executive Committee.

3.5 DECISIONS

3.5.1 Required majorities

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority of votes cast. The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast.

b) If in exceptional cases the Congress is requested to decide on matters which are not on the agenda,

(i) these matters shall be added to the agenda by the FIE Bureau if they concern the budget, the accounts, the auditors, the report of the Executive Committee and the report of the Congress. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a simple majority of votes cast.

(ii) all matters not mentioned in Section (i) above require a majority of 3/4 of votes cast decision to be added to the agenda. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a majority of 3/4 votes cast.

(iii) matters under this section b) may never involve a modification of the Statutes.

c) In all cases, the total number of votes cast, not counting the abstentions, must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.

3.5.2 Quorums

The deliberations of the Congress are only valid if more than 50% of all the members of the FIE are present or represented.

If this proportion is not achieved, the Congress is dissolved and it will be convened again within a period of six months at most. On this occasion it will deliberate validly whatever the number of votes represented.

3.5.3 The Congress decisions concerning modifications to the Statutes are valid with a majority of 2/3 of the votes cast. The decisions of the Congress concerning the modifications of the Rules are valid with a simple majority of the votes cast. The total number of votes cast, not counting the abstentions, must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.

3.5.4 Dissolution

The dissolution of the F.I.E may only be pronounced with a majority of ¾ of the votes of the federations present or represented.

3.5.5 Right to vote

Every Member Federation is entitled to one vote for all voting.

3.5.6 Secret voting

At the Congress the vote is secret on any point which concerns an individual person or a Member Federation in particular, or on the decision of the Chairman of the meeting, or at the request of at least 25% of the members present.

~~3.5.7 Calculation of the majority of the votes cast~~

~~For the purpose of Article 3.5, abstentions shall also be taken into account when determining the number of votes cast.~~

**Proposal 39**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: 3.6.1, 3.6.2, 3.6.5**

**Motivation:** The Ethics Committee should be included in this article and secret voting for elections should systematically take place. Removal of a sentence which was not understandable.

**3.6 SPECIAL RULES FOR THE ELECTIVE CONGRESS**

3.6.1 The President, the Executive Committee~~, and~~ the members of the permanent commissions and Ethics Committee are elected at the Elective Congress during the Olympic year. They are elected for four years.

3.6.2 The voting for the President, the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the Commissions and Ethics Committee is conducted by secret ballot, whether the vote is conducted by electronic ballot or not. ~~which shall include, but not be limited to, votes submitted by appropriate electronic communication as determined by the FIE CEO.~~

The Executive Committee may decide that the vote be conducted by electronic ballot, in which case it will inform the member federations.

If the vote is not conducted by electronic ballot, it must take place in a separate polling booth, to which the delegates of the federations go ~~one after another~~ to complete their voting slips, ~~which should be a different colour for each Commission~~, and place them in one or more closed ballot-boxes.

3.6.3 The elections take place in the following order: President, then Executive Committee, and finally Commissions and Ethics Committee.

3.6.5 The President, the members of the Executive Committee, ~~and of~~ the permanent commissions (except the Athletes Commission) and Ethics Committee take office on the first day of the month following the closing day of the Olympic Games or of the Elective Congress, whichever is the latter.

The members of the Athletes Commission take office on the first day of the month following the meeting at which the Executive Committee selects the final six members.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some minor changes for better understanding.

**3.6 SPECIAL RULES FOR THE ELECTIVE CONGRESS**

3.6.1 The President, the Executive Committee~~, and~~ the members of the permanent commissions (except for the Athletes Commission) and the Ethics Committee are elected at the Elective Congress during the Olympic year. They are elected for four years.

3.6.2 The voting for the President, the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the Commissions and the Ethics Committee is conducted by secret ballot, whether the vote is conducted by

electronic ballot or not. ~~which shall include, but not be limited to, votes submitted by appropriate electronic communication as determined by the FIE CEO.~~

The Executive Committee may decide that the vote be conducted by electronic ballot, in which case it will inform the member federations.

If the vote is not conducted by electronic ballot, it must take place in a separate polling booth, to which the delegates of the federations go ~~one after another~~ to complete their voting slips, ~~which should be a different colour for each Commission~~, and place them in one or more closed ballot-boxes.

3.6.3 The elections take place in the following order: President, then Executive Committee, and finally Commissions and the Ethics Committee.

3.6.5 The President, the members of the Executive Committee, ~~and of~~ the permanent commissions (except the Athletes Commission) and the Ethics Committee take office on the first day of the month following the closing day of the Olympic Games or of the Elective Congress, whichever is the latter.

The members of the Athletes Commission are elected in accordance with Article 4.5 and take office on the first day of the month following the meeting at which the Executive Committee selects the final six members.

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**Proposal 40**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 3.6.6**

**Motivation:** Make official the process to appoint scrutineers who are used at each elective Congress.

3.6.6 The vote for the elected positions will be supervised by three Scrutineers to ensure that the voting process and results are held in accordance with the FIE Statutes.

Scrutineers will be proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Congress, at the opening of the Elective Congress.

They will verify electronic voting numbers and may be required to check an electronic voting system in advance.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 41**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.1.1**

**Motivation:** Introduction of mandates limitations as per the FIE Strategic plan, applicable from the 2028 Congress.

**4.1 GENERAL RULES**

4.1.1 The President of the FIE, the 15 other elected members of the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the members of the commissions (other than the Athletes Commission) and Ethics Committee are elected by the Elective Congress. The members of the Councils and the Disciplinary Panel are selected by the Executive Committee at its first meeting after the Elective Congress during the Olympic year. They are selected for four years. They are eligible for re-election/re-selection respectively at the end of their term of office.

The number of mandates of the above-mentioned people is limited to three (3) (i.e. complete mandates and in the same function). After three (3) mandates, a person may be a candidate for another function (e.g. an Executive Committee member may be a candidate for any other elected position).

Application: starting from 2028

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has modified the proposal. We have made a distinction between the governing functions and the other functions. It shall be ensured that the Statutes of the Zonal Confederations are compliant with the above new Article of the Statutes.

**4.1 GENERAL RULES**

4.1.1 The President of the FIE, the 15 other elected members of the Executive Committee, ~~and~~ the members of the commissions (other than the Athletes Commission) and Ethics Committee are elected by the Elective Congress. The members of the Councils and the Disciplinary Panel are selected by the Executive Committee at its first meeting after the Elective Congress during the Olympic year. They are selected for four years. They are eligible for re-election/re-selection respectively at the end of their term of office.

The number of mandates ~~of the above-mentioned people~~ of the President of the FIE and of the 15 other elected members of the Executive Committee is limited to three (3) mandates ~~(i.e. complete mandates and in the same function)~~.

The number of mandates of the members of the Commissions, Councils, Ethics Committee and the Disciplinary Panel is limited to three (3) consecutive mandates.

After three (3) mandates, a person may be a candidate for another function ~~(e.g. an Executive Committee member may be a candidate for any other elected position)~~.

For the purpose of this Article, a mandate shall mean a served term of at least three (3) years out of the four years.

Application: starting from 2028 Congress. Prior mandates shall not be taken into consideration when applying this Article.

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**Proposal 42**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.1.2**

**Motivation:** Replacement of 00:00 hrs which is not always understood. Addition of the conflict-of-interest disclosure form.

4.1.2 Candidates for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council, the Ethics Committee or the Disciplinary Panel may be proposed by an FIE Member Federation, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post

- a candidate can only be presented by the Member Federation (~~treated in~~ cf. 4.4.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.1) whom the candidate has nationality.

- all the candidatures must be received on the FIE platform or tool no later than 23:55 ~~00:00 hrs~~ Lausanne time 50 calendar days before the opening day of the Elective Congress.

- the candidatures submitted on the FIE platform or tool must include a CV (maximum length of one page of A4 format) stating the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the particular position, and the conflict-of-interest disclosure form duly filled in and signed. A photocopy of an identity document stating the candidate's date of birth and nationality (passport, identity card, driving licence) must be provided with the candidature.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal**,** with minor modification.

4.1.2 Candidates for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council, the Ethics Committee or the Disciplinary Panel may be proposed by an FIE Member Federation, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post

- a candidate can only be presented by the Member Federation (~~treated in~~ cf. 4.4.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.1) whom the candidate has nationality.

- all the candidatures must be received on the FIE platform or tool no later than 23:55 ~~00:00~~ hrs Lausanne time 50 calendar days before the opening day of the Elective Congress.

- the candidatures submitted on the FIE platform or tool must include a CV (maximum length of one page of A4 format) stating the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the particular position, and the conflict-of-interest disclosure form duly filled in and signed. A photocopy of an identity document stating the candidate's date of birth and nationality (passport, identity card, driving licence) must be provided with the candidature.

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**Proposal 43**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 4.1.2**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, “Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority”. In the case of Article 4.1.2, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

4.1.2 Candidates for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council, the Ethics Committee or the Disciplinary Panel may be proposed by an FIE Member Federation, subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post
- a candidate can only be presented by the Member Federation (treated in 4.4.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.1) ~~whom~~ of which the candidate has nationality.
- all the candidatures must be received on the FIE platform or tool no later than 00:00 hrs Lausanne time 50 calendar days before the opening day of the Elective Congress.
- the candidatures submitted on the FIE platform or tool must include a CV (maximum length of one page of A4 format) stating the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the particular position. A photocopy of an identity document stating the candidate’s date of birth and nationality (passport, identity card, driving licence) must be provided with the candidature.

*French text:*

4.1.2 Toute candidature au Comité exécutif, ou à une Commission, à un conseil, au Comité d'éthique ou au comité disciplinaire peut être présentée par une fédération nationale membre de la FIE conformément aux dispositions et exigences suivantes :

- chaque fédération membre ne peut présenter qu’une seule candidature par poste
- une candidature ne peut être présentée que par la fédération membre dont le candidat a la nationalité (prévu dans les articles 4.4.1, 4.6.2 et 4.7.1).
- toutes les candidatures doivent être reçues sur la plate-forme ou l'outil de la FIE au plus tard 50 jours calendaires, 00h00 heure de Lausanne, avant le jour de l’ouverture du Congrès électif.
- les candidatures soumises sur la plateforme ou l'outil de la FIE doivent inclure un CV (d'une longueur maximale d'une page au format A4) précisant les langues parlées ainsi que les diplômes et autres qualifications pour la position concernée. La candidature devra être accompagnée de la photocopie d’un document d’identité faisant état de la date de naissance et de la nationalité du candidat (passeport, carte d’identité, permis de conduire).

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no more comment on its proposal.

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**Proposal 44**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.1.4**

**Motivation:** Introduction of a vetting panel to verify the candidatures, in accordance with ASOIF guidelines.

4.1.4 Vetting Panel

The Panel will consist of 3 members, appointed by the FIE Executive Committee, including a Chair.

Any member of the Executive Committee who is a candidate for an elected or appointed position subject to vetting by the Panel shall abstain from any discussion or vote relating to the appointment, renewal, or removal of members of the Vetting Panel.

The Vetting Panel members shall be external legal experts. They must confirm in writing their neutrality, independence and absence of conflict of interest.

The Panel shall screen each candidature to elected and appointed positions by way of their Application and related documentation to determine their Eligibility in accordance with relevant articles of chapter 4 of the Statutes.

The Panel submits its detailed recommendations to the FIE Bureau.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made changes to the proposal to ensure that the principles of good governance are upheld.

4.1.4 Vetting Panel

The Vetting Panel will consist of 3 members, appointed by the FIE Executive Committee, including a Chair.

Any member of the Executive Committee who is a candidate for an elected or appointed position subject to vetting by the Vetting Panel shall abstain from any discussion or vote relating to the appointment, renewal, or removal of members of the Vetting Panel.

The Vetting Panel members shall be external legal experts. They must confirm in writing their neutrality, independence and absence of conflict of interest.

The Vetting Panel shall screen each candidature to elected and appointed positions by way of their ~~A~~application and related documentation, as well as by interviews conducted in person or by means of electronical communication to determine their ~~E~~eligibility in accordance with relevant ~~a~~rticles of ~~c~~Chapter 4 of the Statutes.

The Vetting Panel shall screen especially:

- required qualifications and education;
- experience;
- availability;
- language skills;
- eligibility according to the Statutes.

The Vetting Panel submits its detailed recommendations to the FIE Bureau.

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**Proposal 45**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.1.5**

**Motivation:** The provisions related to the candidatures in IFs could not be found in the IOC Code of Ethics. Precisions on the process.

4.1.~~4~~ 5 The FIE Bureau rejects candidatures which do not respect the FIE Statutes or the FIE ~~IOC~~ Code of Ethics. Each national federation can ~~contest~~ object to the list of the candidates communicated by the Bureau. Any objection must be submitted in writing within seven (7) days of the communication of the list of candidates and must state the reasons on which it is based. All questions will in the last instance be considered by the Executive Committee, after written advice from the Legal Commission and the persons concerned, including the candidates. In case of urgency an opinion can be obtained ~~by fax or~~ e-mail.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has re-drafted the proposal for clarity and good governance reasons.

4.1.~~4~~ 5 The FIE Bureau rejects candidatures which do not respect the FIE Statutes or the FIE ~~IOC~~ Code of Ethics and may reject candidatures based on the recommendation of the Vetting Panel in accordance with Article 4.1.4. The FIE Bureau must communicate the reasons for rejection to the Member Federation concerned. This ~~Each national~~ ~~federation~~ Member Federation can ~~contest~~ object to rejection. ~~the list of the candidates communicated by the Bureau.~~ Any objection must be submitted to the FIE Bureau in writing within seven (7) days of the receipt of the reasons for rejection ~~communication of the list of candidates~~ and must state the reasons on which it is based. All questions will in the last instance be considered by the Executive Committee, after written advice from the Legal Commission and the persons concerned, including the candidates. In case of urgency an opinion can be obtained ~~by fax or~~ by e-mail.

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**Proposal 46**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.1.6**

**Motivation:** Introduce the right and conditions to promote candidatures.

4.1.6 Once the list of candidates has been officially published by the FIE, candidates have the right to promote their candidacies, subject to respect of the FIE Ethics Code.

They must conduct their campaigns with fairness, dignity, and respect for other candidates.

They may make declarations or give interviews provided, in doing so, that they comply with the FIE Statutes and Ethics Code.

They should not produce (or cause third parties to produce) any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image or reputation of another candidate.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has re-drafted the proposal to have some clarity on the wording.

4.1.6 Once the list of candidates has been officially published by the FIE, candidates have the right to promote their candidacies, subject to respect of the FIE Ethics Code.

They must conduct their campaigns with fairness, dignity, and respect for other candidates.

They may make declarations or give interviews provided, in doing so, that they comply with the FIE Statutes and Ethics Code.

~~They should not produce (or cause third parties to produce) any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image or reputation of another candidate.~~

They shall not make, or cause any third party to make, any oral statement, written communication, or representation of any kind that is likely to damage the image or reputation of another candidate.

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**Proposal 47**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.2**

**Motivation:** To introduce the possibility for a candidate to the Presidency to make a presentation to the Congress.

**4.2 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT**

Each candidate for the presidency will be provided with an equal opportunity to make a presentation at the Elective Congress. The presentation should focus on the credentials of the candidate and the vision and objectives for their term if elected. The presentation should last no more than 10 minutes and may include video presentations.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 48**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.2.1**

**Motivation:** Many federations do not have a clear system of national licencing or Members of Honour.

4.2.1 To be candidate for the presidency a person must ~~hold a licence from his Member Federation, except if he is a Member of Honour,~~ be at least 25 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

Besides, a candidate for the Presidency must speak one of three working languages of the FIE fluently and it would be desirable that he should be able to understand and speak one of the two other working languages.

The President of the FIE cannot hold any position within his national federation or in any Zonal Confederation.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 49**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Articles: 4.2.3, 4.2.4**

**Motivation:** In the practice when calculating majority of votes cast for the decisions of the Congress, abstentions are also included. Nevertheless, this is not clearly indicated in the Statutes. Article 6.2.2 already contains such clarification regarding the election of the President of the Commissions. The aim of the proposal is to make this clarification also for the election of the President. Furthermore, Article 4.2.3 is controversial as it mentions regarding the election at the first ballot a "majority", and then "absolute majority". The term absolute majority is not defined in the Statutes. The proposal is in alignment with the current practice of the election of the President.

4.2 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

4.2.1 To be candidate for the presidency a person must hold a licence from his Member Federation, except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 25 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

Besides, a candidate for the Presidency must speak one of three working languages of the FIE fluently and it would be desirable that he should be able to understand and speak one of the two other working languages.

The President of the FIE cannot hold any position within his national federation or in any Zonal Confederation.

4.2.2 If the candidate or all of the candidates for the Presidency withdraw before an election, new candidates can be presented up to the moment of the election, subject to the general conditions of election enumerated in 4.1.1 to 4.1.2 above.

4.2.3 To be elected at the first ballot a majority of the votes cast is required. For the purpose of Article 4.2.3., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions).

4.2.4 If in the first round of voting no candidate receives the ~~absolute~~ majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised. If during the second round a~~n~~ ~~absolute~~ majority of the votes cast is not obtained by a candidate, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and

one or several additional rounds are organised until one candidate obtains a majority of the votes cast or until only two candidates remain.

In this case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the following round is elected. Should there be a tie between two candidates for two rounds of voting, the younger candidate is elected.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has modified the original proposal in order to be in line with the Proposal No. 36 of the Executive Committee.

**Motivation:** ~~In the practice when calculating majority of votes cast for the decisions of the Congress, abstentions are also included. Nevertheless, this is not clearly indicated in the Statutes. Article 6.2.2 already contains such clarification regarding the election of the President of the Commissions. The aim of the proposal is to make this clarification also for the election of the President. Furthermore, Article 4.2.3 is controversial as it mentions regarding the election at the first ballot a "majority", and then "absolute majority". The term absolute majority is not defined in the Statutes. The proposal is in alignment with the current practice of the election of the President.~~ Modified proposal in line with the Proposal No. 36 of the Executive Committee.

4.2 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

4.2.1 To be candidate for the presidency a person must hold a licence from his Member Federation, except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 25 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

Besides, a candidate for the Presidency must speak one of three working languages of the FIE fluently and it would be desirable that he should be able to understand and speak one of the two other working languages.

The President of the FIE cannot hold any position within his national federation or in any Zonal Confederation.

4.2.2 If the candidate or all of the candidates for the Presidency withdraw before an election, new candidates can be presented up to the moment of the election, subject to the general conditions of election enumerated in 4.1.1 to 4.1.2 above.

4.2.3 To be elected at the first ballot an absolute majority of the votes cast is required. ~~For the purpose of Article 4.2.3., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions).~~

4.2.4 If in the first round of voting no candidate receives the absolute majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised. If during the second round an absolute majority of the votes cast is not obtained by a candidate, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional rounds are organised until one candidate obtains an absolute majority of the votes cast or until only two candidates remain.

In this case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the following round is elected. Should there be a tie between two candidates for two rounds of voting, the younger candidate is elected.

**Proposal 50**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.3.1**

**Motivation:** Many federations do not have a clear system of national licencing or Members of Honour. Addition of international roles.

**4.3 ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

4.3.1 To be candidate to the Executive Committee a person must:

~~- hold a licence from his Member Federation except for Members of Honour~~
- be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections
- enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs
- be able to understand and speak one of the three working languages of the FIE and it is desirable that he should be able to understand and speak one of the two other working languages
- Commit to respect the principle of sports autonomy applicable within the Olympic Movement
- Commit to actively take part in all activities resulting from the function of Executive Committee member.

Being a member of the Executive Committee is incompatible with the national or international roles of technical director, referee, chief of delegation and team captain. Being a member of the Bureau is incompatible with the role of Fencing Master.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 51**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.3.2**

**Motivation:** Precision and correction of article.

4.3.2 If a candidate for the Executive Committee withdraws before the deadline established by the Statutes for the submission of candidates to an election, his/her Member Federation may present another candidate before the deadline in ~~4.1.3.~~ 4.1.2.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

**Proposal 52**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.3.4**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.3.4 In order to secure the principle of equal treatment, women and men each must be represented by at least ~~30%~~ 40 % of the elected members of the Executive Committee. If the 15 candidates who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~5~~ 6 persons of each gender, the Executive Committee will consist of the ~~5~~ 6 candidates for the Executive Committee of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~10~~ 9 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.

If there are fewer than ~~5~~ 6 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates put forward and the remainder of the Executive Committee will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 53**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** Many federations do not have a clear system of national licencing or Members of Honour.

**4.4 ELECTION OF COMMISSIONS (OTHER THAN THE ATHLETES COMMISSION) AND THE ETHICS COMMITTEE**

4.4.2 To be candidate for a permanent commission or the Ethics Committee a person must ~~hold a licence from his National Federation except if he is a Member of Honour,~~ be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 54**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** This provision was necessary for the 2024 Congress, when new requirements were introduced and made obligatory. It should be removed for 2028 and onwards. To clarify that the licence is professional and not related to the FIE licencing.

A candidate for the Medical Commission must have completed the educational requirements for being an MD, DO or DC and hold a valid and active professional licence, or be qualified and be practicing as a physiotherapist ~~or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates~~.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal for liability and safeguarding reasons, as the Medical Commission is actively involved in the running of the fencing World Cups.

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**Proposal 55**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** Precision. The word "and" should be removed as there is no sentence after the word.

A candidate for the Legal Commission must have the educational requirements (University law degree) ~~or~~ and have practiced as a lawyer, judge or notary. ~~or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates; and~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made changes, as it is on the opinion that it can benefit from long-term knowledges of the evolution of the Statutes and it does not prejudice the interests of the FIE.

A candidate for the Legal Commission must have the educational requirements (University law degree or equivalent under local law applicable to the candidate) ~~or~~ and have practiced as a lawyer, judge or notary. or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates~~;~~ ~~and~~

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**Proposal 56**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** To improve functionality and efficiency of the FIE SEMI Commission it is necessary to select specialised and highly qualified members in technical fields SEMI Commission is involved.

A candidate for the SEMI Commission must have a university or college degree in engineering or materials science or metallurgy or computer science or be a FIE-licenced SEMI technician. ~~or in a subject relating to the work of the SEMI Commission or be~~

~~practising as an engineer or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission is in favour of the proposal. The qualification criteria for SEMI Commission does not raise legal issues.

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**Proposal 57**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** This provision was necessary for the 2024 Congress, when new requirements were introduced and made obligatory. It should be removed for 2028 and onwards.

A candidate for the Promotion, Communication and Marketing Commission must:
- have a college or university degree in Marketing, Communications or Media
- or have professional experience in Marketing, Communications or Media
~~- or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

---

**Proposal 58**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** Limitation of alternative activities in fencing for members of the FIE Refereeing Commission must cover not only National but also international positions, including coaching.

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must:

• be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
• be a current member or have been a member for at least two mandates of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in at least two weapons in at least two (2) of the 4 fencing seasons (1 September to 31 August) preceding his candidature; and• have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of eight or semi-final or final of the individual or team event of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his candidature,

Being a member of the Refereeing Commission is incompatible with the national or international roles of technical director, referee, coach, chief of delegation and team captain. Once elected, the Refereeing Commission member shall send to the FIE head-office a letter of commitment signed by both the Refereeing Commission member and his/her national federation.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal with a minor grammatical supplementation.

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must:

• be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
• be a current member or have been a member for at least two mandates of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in at least two weapons in at least two (2) of the 4 fencing seasons (1 September to 31 August) preceding his candidature; and• have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of eight or semi-final or final of the individual or team event of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his/her candidature,

Being a member of the Refereeing Commission is incompatible with the national or international roles of technical director, referee, coach, chief of delegation and team captain. Once elected, the Refereeing Commission member shall send to the FIE head-office a letter of commitment signed by both the Refereeing Commission member and his/her national federation.

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**Proposal 59**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** The educational requirements should be precise. Redrafting of this article.

A candidate for the Ethics Committee must have the educational requirements (University law degree or University degree in ethics) or be practicing as a lawyer, judge, mediator, arbitrator or Ethics Officer or equivalent ~~or have a university degree in ethics~~ ~~or have experience in serving as a member of an ethics committee or equivalent~~.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made changes in order to facilitate candidacies with appropriate skills.

A candidate for the Ethics Committee must have the educational requirements (University law degree or University degree in ethics or equivalent under local law applicable to the candidate) or be practicing as a lawyer, judge, mediator, arbitrator or Ethics Officer ~~or equivalent or have a university degree in ethics~~ or have experience in serving as a member of an ethics committee ~~or equivalent~~.

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**Proposal 60**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** Precision and correction of article number.

If a candidate for a permanent Commission or the Ethics Committee withdraws before the deadline established by the Statutes for the submission of candidates to an election, his/her Member Federation may present another candidate before the deadline in ~~4.1.3~~. 4.1.2.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 61**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 4.4.2, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

4.4.2: candidature criteria for SEMI commission

English text:

A candidate for the SEMI Commission must have a university ~~college~~ degree in engineering or in a subject relating to the work of the SEMI Commission or be practising as an engineer or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.

*French text:*

*Un candidat à la Commission SEMI doit être titulaire d'un diplôme universitaire en ingénierie ou en un sujet relatif aux travaux de la Commission SEMI, ou bien exercer en tant qu'ingénieur ou avoir été membre de cette Commission pendant au moins deux mandats.*

**Note:** The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission withdraws its proposal, if the Proposal No. 56 is adopted.

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**Proposal 62**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.3**

**Motivation:** As member federations can only present one candidate per commission, these words are unnecessary.

4.4.3 For the elections to the permanent commissions and the Ethics Committee, the 10 candidates with the most votes are elected ~~subject to the fact that they must be of different nationalities.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.4**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.4.4 If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~3~~ 4 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the ~~3~~ 4 candidates of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~7~~ 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.
If no candidate of one of the genders has been nominated, the 10 candidates ~~of different nationalities~~ of the other gender with the greatest number of votes are elected.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates of such gender put forward who have received at least one vote and the remainder of the Commission will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

If there are fewer than 10 candidates for a Commission then the Commission will consist of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission then the members of the Commission whose term had just ended shall hold over for the following year until new candidates can be presented and an election is held for that Commission at the following Congress.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 64**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: 4.5.2, 4.5.6, 4.5.7, 4.5.11**

**Motivation:** Federations have to choose between several athletes for this commission. They should be able to present one man and one woman, thus not being obliged to choose between one man and one woman.

**4.5 ELECTION OF THE ATHLETES COMMISSION.**

4.5.2 All athletes who, in the weapon in which they fence, have been entered to compete in either one of the last two Olympic Games or at least one of the Senior World Championships held over the last 5 years can be a candidate for the Athletes Commission.

If the fencer has fenced several weapons during such competitions, he must choose only one of those weapons for this candidature.

Each member federation can nominate ~~one single~~ up to two athletes to the Athletes Commission if they are of a different gender.

4.5.6 A list of candidates will be established, ~~all weapons combined,~~ by weapon and each participant shall vote for seven athletes maximum, whatever weapon the athletes are applying for.

4.5.7 The voting athletes will personally go to the voting office/booth of the FIE at the competition site in order to proceed with the vote, after having verified their identity by presenting their accreditation.

4.5.11 In case of a tie, the candidate who has the highest placing in the world ~~Open~~ Senior ranking on the date of the opening of the Senior World Championships will have the preference.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some supplementary amendments in order to be consistent with the original proposal and to avoid having 2 members from the same nationality in the Athletes Commission.

**4.5 ELECTION OF THE ATHLETES COMMISSION.**

4.5.2 All athletes who, in the weapon in which they fence, have been entered to compete in either one of the last two Olympic Games or at least one of the Senior World Championships held over the last 5 years can be a candidate for the Athletes Commission.

If the fencer has fenced several weapons during such competitions, he must choose only one of those weapons for this candidature.

Each member federation can nominate ~~one single~~ up to two athletes to the Athletes Commission if they are of a different gender.

4.5.6 A list of candidates will be established, ~~all weapons combined,~~ by weapon and each participant shall vote for seven athletes maximum, whatever weapon the athletes are applying for.

4.5.7 The voting athletes will personally go to the voting office/booth of the FIE at the competition site in order to proceed with the vote, after having verified their identity by presenting their accreditation.

4.5.10 The seven candidates who have received the greatest number of votes will be elected, without distinction of weapon. Should the seven athletes with the most votes include two representatives of the same nationality, the one with fewer votes is eliminated and replaced by the candidate with the next most votes.

4.5.11 In case of a tie, the candidate who has the highest placing in the world ~~Open~~ Senior ranking on the date of the opening of the Senior World Championships will have the preference.

4.5.12 The Executive Committee, at its first meeting after these Senior World Championships, will nominate up to five athletes among the list of athletes submitted by their national federations having different nationalities than the athletes elected under Article 4.5.10. If the submitted candidacies allow it, all 6 weapons and four zones – Europe, America, Africa and Asia/Oceania – must be represented within the commission.

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**Proposal 65**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.6.1**

**Motivation:** Addition of: a) Court experience (in order to efficiently conduct disciplinary proceedings and draft judicial decisions, b) legal counsels and c) being fluent in English as this is the language in which most disciplinary proceedings will take place.

**4.6 SELECTION OF THE DISCIPLINARY PANEL**

4.6.1 Members of the Disciplinary Panel shall be individuals who have Court experience and have been practicing as a legal counsel, lawyer, judge, arbitrator, magistrate or professor of law. They must be fluent in English at least.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with some grammatical correction.

**4.6 SELECTION OF THE DISCIPLINARY PANEL**

4.6.1 Members of the Disciplinary Panel shall be individuals who have ~~C~~court experience and have been practicing as a legal counsel, lawyer, judge, arbitrator, magistrate or professor of law. They must be fluent in English at least.

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**Proposal 66**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.7.2**

**Motivation:** Many federations do not have a clear system of national licencing or Members of Honour.

**4.7 SELECTION OF THE COUNCILS**

4.7.2 To be candidate for a council or committee, a person must ~~hold a licence from his National Federation except if he is a Member of Honour~~, be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

The candidates to the Coaches Council cannot have received a black card during the four-year period preceding their candidacy.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 67**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.7.6**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.7.6 Candidacies permitting, there must be at least ~~30%~~ 40% representation of each gender on each of the Councils and Committees.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 68**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.7.7**

**Motivation:** Clarification.

4.7.7 For the Coaches Council, ~~candidacies permitting~~ if the candidacies received allows it, the selections should include:

- 4 representatives from the European zone
- 3 representatives from the Asian-Oceanian zone
- 2 representatives from the American zone
- 1 representative from the African zone;
- at least three representatives of each of the three weapons (foil, epee, sabre) preferably in each case from different zones.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** Proposal 68 and 69 affect the same Article 4.7.7. We have made our amendment proposal to the Proposal No. 69 and included the amendment of the Executive Committee.

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**Proposal 69**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 4.7.7**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, “Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority”. In the case of Article 4.7.7, the English text reverses paragraph order of the French text and therefore the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text. Furthermore, a minor amendment is required in order to eliminate the difference between the French text and the translation. Lastly, we propose some minor grammatical changes in the French text.

English text :

4.7.7 ~~For the Coaches Council, candidacies permitting, the selections should include:~~

~~- 4 representatives from the European zone~~

~~- 3 representatives from the Asian-Oceanian zone~~

~~- 2 representatives from the American zone~~

~~- 1 representative from the African zone;~~

~~- at least three representatives of each of the three weapons (foil, epee, sabre) preferably in each case from different zones.~~

When selecting the candidates for the Coaches Council, the Executive Committee can take into account the following criteria:

- either be current or have been a past national Team Coach

- or have participated with their team in a Cadet, Junior or Senior World Championships; - or have fencers ranked in the FIE rankings

The selections for the Coaches Council, candidacies permitting, should include:

- 4 representatives from the European zone

- 3 representatives from the Asian-Oceanian zone

- 2 representatives from the American zone

- 1 representative from the African zone;

- at least three representatives of each of the three weapons (foil, epee, sabre) preferably in each case from different zones.

*French text:*

*4.7.7 En sélectionnant les candidats pour le Conseil des entraîneurs, le Comité Exécutif pourra prendre en considération les critères suivants :*

*- être ou avoir été entraîneur<u>s</u> d'une équipe nationale ;*

*- ou bien avoir participé avec ~~leur~~ son équipe aux Championnats du Monde cadets, juniors ou seniors ;*

*- ou bien avoir des tireurs figurant au classement FIE.*

*La sélection des membres du Conseil des entraîneurs devrait comprendre, si le nombre de candidats le permet :*

*- 4 représentants issus de la zone Europe*

*- 3 représentants issus de la zone Asie-Océanie*

*- 2 représentants issus de la zone Amérique*

*- 1 représentant issu de la zone Afrique*

*- au moins trois représentants de chacune des 3 armes (fleuret, épée et sabre), de préférence de zones différentes.*

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some further changes to its own proposal.

English text :

4.7.7 ~~For the Coaches Council, candidacies permitting, the selections should include:~~

~~- 4 representatives from the European zone~~

~~- 3 representatives from the Asian-Oceanian zone~~

~~- 2 representatives from the American zone~~

~~- 1 representative from the African zone;~~

~~- at least three representatives of each of the three weapons (foil, epee, sabre) preferably in each case from different zones.~~

When selecting the candidates for the Coaches Council, the Executive Committee can take into account the following criteria:

- either be current or have been a past national Team Coach

- or have participated with their team in a Cadet, Junior or Senior World Championships;

- or have fencers ranked in the FIE rankings

The selections for the Coaches Council, ~~candidacies permitting~~ if the candidacies received allows it, should include:

- 4 representatives from the European zone

- 3 representatives from the Asian-Oceanian zone

- 2 representatives from the Pan-American zone

- 1 representative from the African zone;

- at least three representatives of each of the three weapons (foil, epee, sabre) preferably in each case from different zones.

*French text:*

*4.7.7 En sélectionnant les candidats pour le Conseil des entraîneurs, le Comité Exécutif pourra prendre en considération les critères suivants :*

*- être ou avoir été entraîneurs d'une équipe nationale ;*

*- ou bien avoir participé avec ~~leur~~ son équipe aux Championnats du Monde cadets, juniors ou seniors ;*

*- ou bien avoir des tireurs figurant au classement FIE.*

*La sélection des membres du Conseil des entraîneurs devrait comprendre, si le nombre de candidats le permet :*

*- 4 représentants issus de la zone Europe*

*- 3 représentants issus de la zone Asie-Océanie*

*- 2 représentants issus de la zone Amérique*

*- 1 représentant issu de la zone Afrique*

*- au moins trois représentants de chacune des 3 armes (fleuret, épée et sabre), de préférence de zones différentes.*

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**Proposal 70**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 5.3.2**

**Motivation:** The phrasing and punctuation of the Article is unclear.

English text:

5.3.2 The Executive Committee~~,~~ in office at the time of the election~~,~~ continues to exercise its functions until the new President takes office.

French text :

5.3.2 Le Comité Exécutif en fonction au moment de l'élection~~, continue à exercer ses fonctions~~ le reste jusqu'à ce que le nouveau Président ~~entre en exercice~~ commence son mandat.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comments to its proposal.

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**Proposal 71**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.4**

**Motivation:** Urgent or additional items may be added.

**5.4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND DECISIONS**

The agenda of the Executive Committee meeting shall reach each member of the Executive Committee at least 10 days before the meeting. Urgent or additional items may be added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 72**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.5.2**

**Motivation:** Removal of the fax which is generally no longer used.

**5.5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS**

5.5.2 In an emergency the Executive Committee can take decisions that are immediately binding, after having first requested (by e-mail ~~or fax~~) the opinion of the members of the competent commission(s). Such a decision can, in no case, modify or be opposite to a decision adopted by the last Congress and it must be submitted to the next meeting of the Congress for confirmation. This procedure is not applicable to a modification of Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 73**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.5.5**

**Motivation:** Precision.

5.5.5 In the event of uncertainty or doubt, the Executive Committee is solely competent to finally interpret the articles of the Statutes and the Rules of the FIE.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 74**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.5.10**

**Motivation:** Precisions. The word “nominations” should be replaced by “candidatures” to align with the French text.

5.5.10 The Executive Committee must examine the ~~nominations~~ candidatures for the organisation of Senior, Veteran and ~~World Championships and the~~ Junior and Cadet World Championships and, when necessary, other official competitions of the FIE. It must then submit the bidding documentation received for ~~present a report on~~ these ~~nominations~~ candidatures to the Congress.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 75**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.5.11**

**Motivation:** To align with the FIE rules (delegates of commissions and other technical officials).

5.5.11 The Executive Committee appoints the Directoire Technique and its president, technical officials and referees for the Olympic Games and World Championships. ~~It also appoints the referees for the Grand Prix and the supervisors for World Cup Competitions.~~

It also appoints the Directoire technique, technical officials, supervisors and referees for FIE official competitions, as required by the rules.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal with grammatical corrections.

5.5.11 The Executive Committee appoints the Directoire Technique and its president, technical officials and referees for the Olympic Games and World Championships. ~~It also appoints the referees for the Grand Prix and the supervisors for World Cup Competitions.~~

It also appoints the Directoire technique, technical officials, supervisors and referees for FIE official competitions, as required by the ~~r~~Rules.

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**Proposal 76**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.5.15**

**Motivation:** If proposal on article 1.6 is accepted.

5.5.15 The Executive Committee determines and approves the amounts of the fees listed in article 1.6, items 2 to 9 ~~items 1 to 4, that are approved~~ ~~by the Congress~~ for the following season.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has re-drafted the proposal for the purpose of clarification and good governance.

~~5.5.15 The Executive Committee determines the fees and approves the amounts of the fees financial resources listed in article 1.6, items and 4-9, save for the provisions in Article 1.6 items 1 to 4, that are approved by the Congress for the following season.~~

The Executive Committee determines the fees listed in Article 1.6, items 1-3 that are approved by the Congress for the following season. Financial resources listed in Article 1.6, items 4-9 are under the jurisdiction of the Executive Committee.

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**Proposal 78**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.7.3**

**Motivation:** Administrative procedure in case of disrespect of the rules in order not to prejudice the remaining part of competitions.

**5.7 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BUREAU**

5.7.3 In case of decisions that disrespect the FIE Rules or Statutes made by the Directoire technique or a referee at FIE competitions, the Bureau can decide to revoke the appointment of such persons with immediate effect. It can further proceed to refer the matter to the Legal Commission in view of a Disciplinary complaint.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some further changes on the proposal for the clarity. According to the New Disciplinary Code, the Bureau will be directly entitled to lodge a complaint, so there is no need to involve the Legal Commission.

**5.7 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BUREAU**

5.7.3 In case of decisions that seriously violate the FIE Rules or Statutes made during any official competition of the FIE by the Directoire technique or a referee ~~at FIE competitions~~ appointed for that competition, the Bureau can decide to revoke the appointment of such persons with immediate effect and replace them for the remainder of the competition, if possible. It can further ~~proceed to refer the matter to the Legal Commission in view of a Disciplinary complaint~~ lodge a complaint to initiate a disciplinary procedure as set forth in Chapter VII of the Statutes.

**Proposal 79**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.8.1**

**Motivation:** Removal of fax which is generally no longer used.

**5.8 BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TREASURER**

5.8.1

e) Payments of the management account can be made with the sole signature of the President, with the prior approval of the Treasurer and the CEO, with the sole signature of the Treasurer and the CEO, with the prior approval of the President, or with the signature of the Secretary General with the prior approval of the President or the Treasurer and the CEO (who advise the President).

The prior agreement can be made by ~~fax or~~ e-mail.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 80**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.9**

**Motivation:** Rephrasing and in line with the responsibilities adopted by the Executive Committee.

**5.9 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

The Secretary General is responsible for: ~~coordinating the works of the Commissions, supervising the work of the Sport department, representing the FIE and the FIE President during the meetings of International Organizations and coordinating the plan of development of fencing.~~

- Coordinating the work of Commissions and Councils
- Coordinating the work of the Sports Department
- Coordinating projects and international relations with various organisations
- Coordinating the FIE website
- Coordinating the development plan of fencing
- Representing the FIE and the FIE President during the meetings of International Organisations

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission basically agrees with the proposal and has only made some grammatical corrections.

**5.9 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

The Secretary General is responsible for: ~~coordinating the works of the Commissions, supervising the work of the Sport department, representing the FIE and the FIE President during the meetings of International Organizations and coordinating the plan of development of fencing.~~

- Coordinating the work of Commissions and Councils
- Coordinating the work of the Sports Department
- Coordinating projects and international relations with various organisations
- Coordinating the FIE website
- Coordinating the development plan of fencing
- Representing the FIE and the FIE President during the meetings of ~~I~~international ~~O~~organisations

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**Proposal 81**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 6.2.2**

**Motivation:** To clarify the process.

**6.2 STRUCTURE OF THE COMMISSIONS**

6.2.2 The commissions will meet within two months of their election in order to elect their President and prepare their working calendar.

- The names of the candidates ~~candidatures~~ shall reach the FIE Head Office no later than ~~00:00 hrs Lausanne time 2 calendar days~~ 48 hours before the starting time ~~opening~~ of the meeting.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the wording.

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**Proposal 82**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article 6.2.2**

**Motivation:** Article 6.2.2 regulates the rules for the election of the Presidents of the Commissions. The recent wording reflects on situations, in which the president receives majority of the votes cast at the first ballot, or in which there are more rounds of voting and more than two candidates or when there is only one candidate. However, there are no clear procedure for the cases in which are only two candidates for the Presidency.

6.2.2 The commissions will meet within two months of their election in order to elect their President and prepare their working calendar.

- A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of its members are present. These meetings may be in a physical location or virtual (via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means), as determined by the Executive Committee. They may not however take the form of a hybrid meeting (physical plus virtual).

- When the meeting is held via electronic means, the identity of the participants must be verified.

- Any elected member may propose as President any elected member, including himself/herself. If a member proposes someone other than himself/herself, written confirmation that that member agrees to be a candidate must accompany the submission of the candidature.

- The candidatures shall reach the FIE Head Office no later than 00:00 hrs Lausanne time 2 calendar days before the opening of the meeting.

- In case of only one candidate, that candidate is automatically elected by acclamation.

- The election shall take place as near the beginning of the meeting as is feasible.

- Until the new President has been elected, the meeting shall be chaired by the Executive Committee representative.

- Voting is by secret ballot among the elected members being present. The votes will be counted by a disinterested person from outside the commission and voting may be carried out by electronic ballot. No proxy or advance voting is allowed.

- To be elected at the first ballot a majority of the votes cast is required. For the purpose of Article 6.2.2., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions). If there are more than two candidates and in the first round of voting no candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised. If there are two candidates and in the first round of voting neither candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, an additional round is organized. In this last case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the second round is elected.

If there are more than two candidates and during the second round no candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional rounds are organised until one candidate obtains the majority of votes cast or until only two candidates remain. In this last case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the following round is elected. Should there be a tie between two candidates for two rounds of voting, the younger candidate is elected.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made further amendments to its original proposal for the case that Proposal No. 36. is voted. The redrafted Article 6.2.2 is in line with the new method of calculation of the votes. Should Proposal No. 36 not be voted, we keep our original proposal as follows:

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**"**- To be elected at the first ballot a majority of the votes cast is required. For the purpose of Article 6.2.2., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions). If there are more than two candidates and in the first round of voting no candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised. If there are two candidates and in the first round of voting neither candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, an additional round is organized. In this last case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the second round is elected.

If there are more than two candidates and during the second round no candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional

rounds are organised until one candidate obtains the majority of votes cast or until only two candidates remain. In this last case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the following round is elected. Should there be a tie between two candidates for two rounds of voting, the younger candidate is elected."

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6.2.2 The commissions will meet within two months of their election in order to elect their President and prepare their working calendar.

- A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of its members are present. These meetings may be in a physical location or virtual (via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means), as determined by the Executive Committee. They may not however take the form of a hybrid meeting (physical plus virtual).

- When the meeting is held via electronic means, the identity of the participants must be verified.

- Any elected member may propose as President any elected member, including himself/herself. If a member proposes someone other than himself/herself, written confirmation that that member agrees to be a candidate must accompany the submission of the candidature.

- The candidatures shall reach the FIE Head Office no later than 00:00 hrs Lausanne time 2 calendar days before the opening of the meeting.

- In case of only one candidate, that candidate is automatically elected by acclamation.

- The election shall take place as near the beginning of the meeting as is feasible.

- Until the new President has been elected, the meeting shall be chaired by the Executive Committee representative.

- Voting is by secret ballot among the elected members being present. The votes will be counted by a disinterested person from outside the commission and voting may be carried out by electronic ballot. No proxy or advance voting is allowed.

- To be elected at the first ballot an absolute majority of the votes cast is required. ~~For the purpose of Article 6.2.2., the majority of the votes cast shall mean more than 50% of all votes (including abstentions).~~

If there are only two candidates and in the first round of voting neither candidate receives the absolute majority of the votes cast, an additional round is organized. In this last case, the candidate who receives the simple majority of the votes cast ~~the most votes at the second round~~ is elected.

~~If there are more than two candidates and in the first round of voting no candidate receives the absolute majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and an additional round is organised.~~

~~If there are two candidates and in the first round of voting neither candidate receives the majority of the votes cast, an additional round is organized. In this last case, the candidate who receives the most votes at the second round is elected.~~

If there are more than two candidates and during the first ~~second~~ round no candidate receives the absolute majority of the votes cast, the candidate who received the least votes is eliminated and one or several additional rounds are organised until one candidate obtains the absolute majority of votes cast or until only two candidates remain. In this last case, the candidate who receives the simple majority of the votes cast is elected. Should there be a tie between two candidates for two rounds of voting, the younger candidate is elected.

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**Proposal 83**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 6.4.2**

**Motivation:** Removal of fax which is generally no longer used.

6.4.2 A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of members are present. In case of a force majeure event or significant budgetary issues of the FIE, a Commission may hold meetings and take decisions via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means.

In addition to the above:

(i) in a matter of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted to a vote by

correspondence, including by ~~fax and/or~~ electronic mail or by any other appropriate electronic means, of the members of the Commission by its President;

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission basically agrees with the proposal and has only made a change to have a consistent wording with other provisions of the Statute.

6.4.2 A Commission's meeting is valid only when the majority of members are present. In case of a force majeure event or significant budgetary issues of the FIE, a Commission may hold meetings and take decisions via teleconference, videoconference or any other appropriate electronic means.

In addition to the above:

(i) in a matter of urgency, a resolution or decision may be submitted to a vote by

correspondence, including by ~~fax and/or~~ ~~electronic mail~~ email or by any other appropriate electronic means, of the members of the Commission by its President;

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**Proposal 84**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 6.5.1. c)**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, “Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority”. In the case of Article 6.5.1 d), the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

6.5 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONS

6.5.1 The Legal Commission.

a) It presents to the Executive Committee a report which will be submitted to the Congress on all the proposals to modify the Statutes submitted for consideration by the Congress.

b) This Commission prepares the texts of all proposals concerning the Statutes for the approval of the Executive Committee before submission to the Congress.

c) The textual preparation ~~and~~ or modification of all annexes to the Statutes, except the Rules for Competitions and its annexes, are submitted to the Legal Commission for an opinion.

d) The Commission remains at the disposal of the Executive Committee for the examination of any legal text.

*French text:*

*6.5.1 La Commission Juridique*

*a) Elle présente au Comité Exécutif un rapport, qui sera soumis au Congrès, sur toutes les propositions modifiant les Statuts soumises à l'étude du Congrès.*

*b) Cette Commission prépare les textes de toutes résolutions concernant les Statuts pour approbation du Comité Exécutif avant de les soumettre au Congrès.*

*c) La rédaction ou la modification de tous les textes annexes aux Statuts sont soumis pour avis à la Commission Juridique à l'exception du Règlement des Epreuves et de ses textes annexes.*

*d) La Commission est à la disposition du Comité Exécutif pour l'examen de tout texte juridique.*

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made a further grammatical correction to its original proposal.

English text:

6.5 FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONS

6.5.1 The Legal Commission.

a) It presents to the Executive Committee a report which will be submitted to the Congress on all the proposals to modify the Statutes submitted for consideration by the Congress.

b) This Commission prepares the texts of all proposals concerning the Statutes for the approval of the Executive Committee before submission to the Congress.

c) The textual preparation ~~and~~ or modification of all annexes to the Statutes, except the Rules for Competitions and its annexes, are submitted to the Legal Commission for an opinion.

d) The Commission remains at the disposal of the Executive Committee for the examination of any legal text.

*French text:*

*6.5.1 La Commission Juridique*

*a) Elle présente au Comité Exécutif un rapport, qui sera soumis au Congrès, sur toutes les propositions modifiant les Statuts soumises à l'étude du Congrès.*

*b) Cette Commission prépare les textes de toutes résolutions concernant les Statuts pour approbation du Comité Exécutif avant de les soumettre au Congrès.*

*c) La rédaction ou la modification de tous les textes annexes aux Statuts sont est soumise pour avis à la Commission Juridique à l'exception du Règlement des Epreuves et de ses textes annexes.*

*d) La Commission est à la disposition du Comité Exécutif pour l'examen de tout texte juridique.*

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

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**Proposal 85**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 6.6.2**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 6.6.2, the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

6.6 Responsibility of Commission Presidents

6.6.1 Management of the operations of the Commissions

6.6.2 ~~Preparation of~~ Prepare the Commissions' work plans and control ~~over~~ their implementation ~~shall be done~~ in coordination with the Executive Committee delegate to the Commission.

6.6.3 ~~Provision of~~ Provide minutes of meetings and reports on Commission activities ~~for~~ to Executive Committee members.

*French text:*

*6.6 Responsabilités des Présidents des Commissions*

*6.6.1 Gestion des activités des commissions*

*6.6.2 Préparer les travaux des Commissions et contrôler leur mise en place en coordination avec le délégué du Comité Exécutif à la Commission.*

*6.6.3 Fournir aux membres du Comité Exécutif les procès-verbaux des réunions et des rapports sur les activités de la Commission*

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comment to its original proposal.

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**Proposal 86**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 6A.2.3**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, "Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority". In the case of Article 6A.2.3 the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required. Furthermore, we propose some minor change in the French text for clarity.

English text:

6A.2 STRUCTURE OF THE COUNCILS

6A.2.1 Each Council is made up of ten voting members selected by the Executive Committee.

6A.2.2 The selected members of the Councils elect their President at their first meeting, following the same procedure specified for the Commissions (cf. 6.2.2).

6A.2.3 The Executive Committee will delegate one of its members to each of the Councils in order ~~be responsible~~ to monitor and coordinate the work ~~of each~~ of the Councils (cf. 5.5.4).

The President of the FIE may, after consultation with the Secretary General and CEO, have relevant experts involved in the ~~councils'~~ Councils' work.

French text:

6A.2 STRUCTURE DES CONSEILS

6A.2.1 Chaque conseil se compose de dix membres votants sélectionnés par le Comité exécutif.

6A.2.2 Les membres sélectionnés des conseils élisent leur président à leur première réunion, en suivant la même procédure que celle spécifiée pour les commissions (cf. 6.2.2).

6A.2.3 Le Comité Exécutif délègue un de ses membres dans chaque Conseil afin de surveiller et de coordonner les travaux des ~~Conseils~~ conseils. (cf. 5.5.7).

Le Président de la FIE peut, après consultation du Secrétaire général et du CEO, avoir des experts appropriés impliqués dans les travaux des conseils

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comment to its original proposal.

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**Proposal 87**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 6A.5.2**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, “Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority”. In the case of Article 6A.5.2 the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text :

6A.5.2 Veterans Council

The Veterans Council gives its advice to the Executive Committee ~~latter~~ on all issues related to veteran fencing. The Veterans Council can also propose to the Executive Committee all measures, which could contribute towards improving veteran fencing

French text:

6A.5.2 Conseil des Vétérans

Le Conseil des vétérans conseille le Comité Exécutif sur toutes les questions touchant à l’escrime des vétérans. Le Conseil des vétérans peut aussi proposer au Comité exécutif toutes les mesures pouvant s'avérer utiles pour améliorer l'escrime pour les vétérans.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comment to its original proposal.

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**Proposal 88**

**Presented by: Legal Commission**

**Article: 6B.3.4**

**Motivation:** According to Statutes 1.5.3, “Should there be any difference between the French text and any translation, the French text will be given priority”. In the case of Article 6B.3.4 the current English text is not in line with the prevailing French text, and therefore, an amendment is required.

English text:

6B.3 STRUCTURE OF A WORKING GROUP

6B.3.1 Each Working Group will be made up of experts on the subject matter of the Working Group and may, but need not, be members of the Executive Committee, Ethics Committee, Commissions or Councils. Members outside of the FIE bodies may include lawyers, engineers, professors, physicians, etc. who have expertise in the subject matter of a specific Working Group and can supplement the knowledge of those members of the FIE bodies. The individuals selected for the Working Group shall have proven expertise in the subject matter of the specific Working Group and confirm their availability to dedicate the time and effort required for the

length of the existence of the Working Group. The individuals shall be free of any conflicts of interest regarding the subject matter of the specific Working Group.

6B.3.2 The composition of a Working Group should contain, whenever possible, individuals from each zone and of both genders.

6B.3.3 In the event of a member's death or resignation, the Executive Committee will replace him/her by another member, taking into account the above guidelines as applicable from time to time.

6B.3.4 Working Groups shall report to the Executive Committee which shall include at each Congress information regarding the progress of each of the Working Groups. To the extent that the work of a Working Group develops a proposal that affects the Statutes~~,~~ or the Rules such proposal shall be submitted to the appropriate Commissions and/or Councils for review and comment before submission to the Congress for approval. To the extent that the proposal relates to the qualification system for the Olympic Games such proposal shall be submitted directly to the Congress for approval.

French text:

6B.3 STRUCTURE D'UN GROUPE DE TRAVAIL

6B.3.1 Chaque groupe de travail sera composé d'experts sur le sujet du groupe de travail, qui peuvent, mais pas nécessairement, être membres du Comité Exécutif, du Comité d'éthique, des Commissions ou des Conseils. Des membres extérieurs aux organes de la FIE, pouvant inclure des avocats, des ingénieurs, des professeurs, des médecins, etc. possédant une expertise sur le sujet d'un groupe de travail spécifique, peuvent venir compléter les connaissances des membres des organes de la FIE. Les individus sélectionnés pour le groupe de travail doivent avoir une expertise reconnue sur le sujet du groupe de travail spécifique, et confirmer leur disponibilité pour consacrer le temps et les efforts nécessaires tout au long de l'existence du groupe de travail. Les individus ne doivent pas avoir de conflits d'intérêt par rapport au sujet du groupe de travail spécifique.

6B.3.2 Un groupe de travail doit être composé, dans la mesure du possible, d'individus de chaque zone et des deux genres.

6B.3.3 En cas de décès ou de démission d'un membre, le Comité Exécutif le remplacera par un autre membre, en tenant compte des directives ci-dessus, qui peuvent s'appliquer de temps à autres.

6B.3.4 Les groupes de travail doivent rendre compte au Comité Exécutif, qui doit transmettre des informations sur l'avancement de chacun des groupes de travail à chaque Congrès. Si le travail d'un groupe de travail aboutit à une proposition qui concerne les Statuts ou les Règlements, cette proposition doit être soumise aux Commissions et/ou aux Conseils appropriés pour examen et commentaires avant soumission au Congrès pour approbation. Si la proposition concerne le système de qualification pour les Jeux Olympiques, cette proposition doit être soumise directement au Congrès pour approbation.

The proposal only affects the English version of the Statutes.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has no further comment to its original proposal.

**Proposal 89**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: Chapter VII Discipline** New text

**Motivation:** The Disciplinary code had to be updated and completely revised. Therefore, a new text replacing the current one has been drafted.

## 7.1 DISCIPLINARY CODE

### 7.1.1 Scope and Object

The Disciplinary Code describes infringements of the rules in FIE Statutes, Rules, Ethics Code, Safeguarding Policy, discipline or sportsmanship within the purview of the International Fencing Federation (FIE), (including any of its confederations that have subjected themselves to this FIE Disciplinary Code and/or the decisions of the Disciplinary Panel, hereinafter referred to as "the Joined Confederations").

It determines the sanctions incurred, regulates the organisation and functions of the FIE Disciplinary Tribunal, as well as the procedures to be followed before it.

It does not apply to discipline at the sites of the competitions, which is subject to in Articles t.114 et seq. of the Rules for Competitions of the FIE.
No one can intervene in, influence, or otherwise interfere with the adjudication of disciplinary matters or the independence of the Disciplinary Panel.

The Executive Committee will ensure the recognition, enforcement, and execution of final and binding disciplinary decisions.

### 7.1.2 *Material scope of application*

1. This Code applies to any conduct that:
    a) occurs during activities organised, recognised, or sanctioned by the FIE (competitions, events, training activities, officials' functions, governance, elections or decision-making processes, commercial or representational activities); or
    b) occurs outside such activities but has a direct or indirect impact on the FIE, its competitions, governance, decisions, reputation, or members.
2. Disciplinary jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel applies irrespective of nationality and domicile of the defendant, or the place where the conduct occurred, provided that the conduct has a sufficient factual, functional, or regulatory connection to the FIE, its activities, competitions, governance, or institutional interests.

### 7.1.3 *Subsidiarity of national jurisdiction*

Disciplinary offences arising from matters of a purely internal nature within a member federation shall, in principle, fall within the competence and jurisdiction of that federation, in accordance with its own rules.

The jurisdiction of the FIE Disciplinary Panel may nevertheless be invoked where the conduct:

a) has an international dimension of particular seriousness;

b) affects one or more persons affiliated with, licensed by, or originating from another member federation; or
c) affects the interests or reputation of the FIE.

In such cases, the FIE Disciplinary Panel shall be competent to hear and adjudicate the matter, either ex officio, or upon referral by the federation concerned or upon request of the affected persons, in accordance with this Disciplinary Code.

7.1.4 *Personal scope of application*

The following are subject to this Code:

- All Member Federations.
- All individuals who are licensees, accredited or authorised by the FIE or by a Member Federation or by any of the Joined Confederations, including fencers, coaches, referees, judges, officials, representatives, staff and entourage of the fencers, therapists etc.
- The FIE employees and the members of all the FIE Commissions and Councils.
- All individuals assigned by the FIE to exercise a function, in particular with regard to a competition or other event organised by the FIE or Member Federations.
- All other associations, and other legal entities affiliated with or recognised by the FIE, and their members, officials and representatives.

Acceptance of a licence, accreditation, or participation in a FIE sanctioned event constitutes acceptance of this Code.

7.1.5 *Disciplinary code for* competitions

The present rules take priority over the rules figuring in the Rules for Competitions of the FIE and in particular at Article t.94ss, Disciplinary Code for Competitions.

**Disciplinary offences**

7.1.6 *Category of offences (non-exhaustive)*

1. Without prejudice the non-exhaustive nature of the catalogue set out in this Code, the following acts or omissions shall, in particular, constitute disciplinary offences where they are committed intentionally or negligently and have a sufficient connection to the FIE, its activities, governance, competitions, or interests:

a) **Violation** : any violation of the Statutes, Rules, regulations, directives, or binding decisions of the FIE or of any Joined Confederation.

b) **Unsportsmanlike conduct**: any conduct contrary to the principles of fair play, respect, or sportsmanship expected within FIE activities or competitions.

c) **Brutality** : any act of excessive or disproportionate physical force committed in connection with FIE activities or competitions.

d) **Aggression**: any aggressive behaviour, whether physical or verbal, that exceeds what is reasonably acceptable in the sporting context.

e) **Abuse** : any form of verbal, physical, mental, or sexual abuse committed in connection with FIE activities, competitions, or governance.

f) **Corruption**: any act or omission involving bribery, undue influence, or improper advantage intended to distort decision-making, competition outcomes, selections, or governance processes.

g) **Embezzlement**: unlawful or improper appropriation, use, or diversion of funds or assets belonging to the FIE, a Joined Confederation, or any entity acting within the FIE framework.

h) **False declaration**: any false, misleading, or incomplete declaration made when entering a competition, applying for accreditation, or standing as a candidate for election or appointment.

i) **Publicity violation**: any violation of the FIE Publicity Code or of regulations governing advertising, sponsorship, image rights, or commercial representation.

j) **Black card**: receipt of a black card during a competition, where such sanction is designated by the applicable rules as giving rise to disciplinary proceedings beyond the field of play.

k) **Ethics:** any conduct constituting an attack on sporting morals, ethical principles, or the fundamental values of the FIE.

l) **Disorder**: any act of provocation, disturbance, or disorder capable of disrupting competitions, events, official functions, or disciplinary proceedings.

m) **Threat**: any threat, whether explicit or implicit, directed at a person or entity in connection with FIE activities or interests.

n) **Harassment**: any repeated or serious unwanted conduct, including verbal or non-verbal behaviour, that violates a person's dignity or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

o) **Fraud**: fraud, including any intentional act or omission designed to deceive the FIE, its bodies, officials, or participants for the purpose of obtaining an undue advantage or causing harm.

p) **Theft**: theft or misappropriation of property, funds, documents, or assets belonging to the FIE, a member federation, or any person acting within the FIE framework.

q) **Misrepresentation**: false, misleading, or incomplete statements, declarations, or representations made knowingly or recklessly in disciplinary, administrative, electoral, contractual, or competition-related matters.

r) **Defamation**: defamation or any conduct causing unjustified damage to the reputation, integrity, or honour of the FIE, its bodies, officials, members, or participants, where such conduct is connected to FIE activities or interests.

s) **Malice:** malicious prosecution, including the intentional initiation of disciplinary or other proceedings based on facts known to be false or grossly distorted, with the aim of harming another person or entity or abusing FIE procedures.

t) **Abuse of position:** use of an official position, mandate, or function within the FIE or a member federation to obtain an undue advantage, to confer an unjustified benefit on a third party, or to cause harm to another person or entity.

u) **Conflict:** failure to disclose, manage, or abstain from decision-making in the presence of an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, where such conflict is liable to compromise impartiality, integrity, or trust in FIE processes.

v) **Disloyalty:** any conduct contrary to the duties of loyalty, diligence, care, or good faith owed to the Federation by virtue of an elected, appointed, or entrusted position.

w) **Circumvention**: any act or omission intended to evade, frustrate, undermine, or render ineffective the application of the Statutes, regulations, decisions, or sanctions of the FIE, including through the use of intermediaries or third parties.

x) **Obstruction:** any conduct that interferes with the proper conduct of disciplinary proceedings, including but not limited to:

- influencing, intimidating, or pressuring witnesses or parties;

- tampering with, concealing, or destroying evidence;
- providing false or misleading information to disciplinary bodies.

y) **Non-compliance:** unjustified refusal or failure to comply with requests, summonses, or **instructions** issued by the FIE or its disciplinary bodies in the context of investigations or proceedings.

z) **Retaliation:** any adverse action, threat, or form of pressure directed against a person for having filed a complaint, provided testimony, supplied information, or otherwise cooperated in good faith with the FIE or its disciplinary bodies.

aa) **Abuse of process:** initiation or pursuit of disciplinary proceedings in bad faith, including the repeated filing of frivolous, vexatious, or manifestly unfounded complaints with the intent to harass, intimidate, or cause reputational or procedural harm.

bb) **Manipulation:** any undue influence or interference with selection, nomination, ranking, or classification processes governed by FIE rules.

cc) **Unauthorised disclosure of confidential information:** disclosure, use, or exploitation of confidential or non-public information obtained through FIE activities, positions, or proceedings, without authorisation or legitimate purpose.

dd) **Ineligibility**: any false, misleading, or incomplete representation concerning eligibility, licence status, affiliation, qualification, or entitlement under FIE rules.

ee) **Disrepute:** any conduct that materially damages, or is likely to materially damage, the reputation, credibility, or authority of the FIE at national or international level.

ff) **Unauthorised representation**: acting, speaking, negotiating, or engaging commercially in the name of, or on behalf of, the FIE without proper authorisation, or in violation of FIE rules.

gg) **Falsification:** alteration, fabrication, or misuse of official documents, records, data, or communications relating to FIE activities or governance.

hh) **Incompatibility:** any other conduct that, by its nature, gravity, or consequences, is incompatible with the proper functioning, objectives, or integrity of the FIE, provided that such conduct is sufficiently foreseeable and proportionately sanctioned.

2. Any conduct that violates the Statutes, Rules, regulations, codes, directives, or binding decisions of the FIE, or that infringes the duties of integrity, loyalty, good faith, or discipline owed to the FIE, may give rise to disciplinary proceedings, even if not expressly listed above.

3. Violations of the Anti-doping Rules of the FIE are not submitted to the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Tribunal of the FIE. They are treated in accordance with the FIE Anti-doping Rules.

4. The qualification of conduct as a disciplinary offence shall be made based on its substance and effects, and not solely on its formal classification or the terminology used by the parties.

7.1.7 *Attempt*

An attempted offence is punishable if the offence was only prevented by circumstances beyond the control of the offender.
Attempt is sanctioned as the completed offence.

7.1.8 *Complicity*

Any person who intentionally assists, instigates, facilitates, or provides means for an offence is punishable as the principal offender.
Knowledge of the offence and contribution to its commission are sufficient.

7.1.9 *Multiple offences*

Where several offences are committed, sanctions may be cumulative.
The Disciplinary Tribunal may impose only the most severe sanction, by giving reasons for such a decision.

7.1.10 *Repetition of an offence*

A Defendant shall be considered a repeat offender where:

a) the Defendant has been the subject of a final and binding disciplinary decision imposing a sanction for a disciplinary offence; and
b) the Defendant commits a new disciplinary offence of the same or greater seriousness within a period of two (2) years from the date of notification of that final decision.

Repetition of an offence does not constitute a separate disciplinary offence. It shall constitute an aggravating circumstance and shall be expressly taken into account by the Disciplinary Panel when determining the nature and severity of the sanction to be imposed for the subsequent offence.

7.1.11 *Limitation Period*

A complaint must be addressed to the Head Office of the FIE within two (2) years from the date on which the alleged offence became known to the FIE.

In the case of a continuing or concealed offence, the limitation period shall run from the date on which the conduct ceased or was discovered.

**Sanctions**

7.1.12 *Penalties*

The Disciplinary Tribunal of the FIE may impose one or more of the following penalties, either individually or cumulatively:

a) **Warning**: a formal notice indicating that the Defendant's conduct is incompatible with the rules or principles of the FIE, serving as an official admonition and a warning that any repetition or similar conduct may give rise to more severe disciplinary sanctions, without entailing further immediate disciplinary consequences.

b) **Censure**: A formal reprimand expressing official disapproval of the Defendant's conduct, recorded in the disciplinary record.

c) **Disqualification**: entails the annulment of all results, classifications, rankings, points, and awards obtained by the Defendant in the tournament or competition concerned.

d) **Suspension**: deprives the Defendant, for a specified period, of the right to participate in any sporting, administrative, official, or other activity organised, recognised, or authorised by the FIE, the zonal confederations, the member federations, or their affiliated bodies. Suspension entails the withdrawal of the relevant licence(s) for the entire duration of the suspension.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall expressly determine:

- the commencement date of the suspension;
- its duration;
- its material and personal scope.

Where a legal entity (including a federation, club, or association) is suspended, the suspension shall extend to all persons licensed by, affiliated with, or acting on behalf of that entity, unless the Disciplinary Tribunal expressly authorises, under defined conditions, the continued exercise of individual activities.

Any violation of a suspension constitutes a separate disciplinary offence and shall result, at a minimum, in the extension or doubling of the remaining suspension period, without prejudice to the imposition of additional sanctions.

The FIE Head Office shall ensure that any suspension is promptly notified to all member federations and relevant bodies upon its entry into force.

e) **Expulsion**: permanently excludes the Defendant from all activities falling within the fencing domain and under the authority of the FIE.
Expulsion may be imposed only in cases of:

- particularly serious offences; or
- repeated disciplinary offences demonstrating a persistent disregard for FIE rules and principles.

f) **Fines**: may be imposed on any Defendant, whether an individual or a legal entity.
Unless otherwise provided:

- individuals: minimum CHF 125 – maximum CHF 12,500;
- legal entities: minimum CHF 225 – maximum CHF 22,500.

Where multiple fines are imposed in respect of multiple offences, the fines may be cumulative, and the total amount may exceed the maximum provided for a single fine.
Failure to pay a fine within the prescribed deadline may give rise to additional disciplinary measures.

g) **Accessory penalties**: may be imposed in addition to a principal penalty where justified by the circumstances of the case.
Accessory penalties may include, in particular:

- prohibition from accessing specified venues or locations for a defined period;
- ineligibility to hold elected or appointed positions at national or international level;
- withdrawal of titles, honours, distinctions, or awards.

7.1.13 *Suspended sentence*

All penalties except warnings may be totally or partially suspended for a probationary period of two (2) years.

If no offence of equal or greater seriousness is committed during the probationary period, the suspended penalty shall not be enforced.

In the event of reoffending, the suspended penalty shall be automatically enforced in addition to the new sanction.

7.1.14 *Publication of decisions*

Final disciplinary decisions and the penalties imposed will be published by the FIE, including on its official website and in its official publications (official magazine of the FIE).

Publication shall be proportionate and limited to what is necessary to ensure transparency, deterrence, and the protection of the integrity of the sport, while respecting applicable data protection requirements.

**Procedural rules**

## 7.2 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

7.2.1 *Right to lodge a complaint*

The following may lodge a complaint with the FIE Head Office:

a) any individual or legal entity directly affected by the alleged offence;

b) the FIE Executive Committee;

c) the FIE Bureau;

d) the FIE Ethics Committee for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code or an Ethics Committee advice;
e) any other FIE body or official acting within its mandate;

f) a Member Federation or a Joined Confederation;

g) the FIE supervisors at international competitions;

h) the Directoire Technique.

The lodging of a complaint does not confer party status beyond what is expressly provided for in this Code.

7.2.2 *Form of the complaint*

The complaint shall be submitted in writing, in one of the official working language of the FIE. It shall contain:

a) the full name of the individual or entity, the nationality, address and title of the complainant(s);
b) the full name of the individual or entity and nationality of the person being accused, if known, or the indication that their identity and/or address is unknown;
d) a concise statement of the relevant facts;
e) the alleged violations with an indication of the rule or principle infringed;
f) any available supporting evidence;
g) the objectives of the complainant
h) the signature of the complainant.

The complaint can be accompanied by any documents necessary for the investigative file. Additional or new information can be communicated up to 30 days after the complaint is submitted or upon request of the Disciplinary Tribunal, at its discretion.

Anonymous complaints shall not constitute admissible complaints, but the FIE Head Office may refer them to the Bureau to determine whether they should be referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

7.2.3 *Admissibility of the Complaint and appointment of the Disciplinary Tribunal*

Within twenty (20) days from the receipt of a complaint and after having translated any accompanying documents into the language of the proceedings, the FIE Head Office shall inform the President of the Legal Commission of:

a) the existence of the complaint; and
b) the identity of the parties concerned.

The Legal Commission shall declare a complaint inadmissible where:

a) it is manifestly unfounded;
b) it is outside the scope of this Code; or
c) it is time-barred pursuant to article 7.1.11. The date indicated by the postmark of the envelope or, in the case of electronic submission, the proof of electronic transmission

shall be deemed to establish the date of filing of the complaint and, consequently, the compliance with the applicable time limit.

Where the complaint is not declared inadmissible, the Legal Commission, or a sub-committee duly designated for this purpose, shall, **within ten (10) working days** of being informed by the FIE Head Office, proceed to the constitution of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

For this purpose, the Legal Commission shall first exclude from eligibility any member of the Disciplinary Panel who:

a) has a conflict of interest;
b) represents, or is affiliated with, a country directly concerned by the proceedings; or
c) has previously been involved in the matter in any other capacity, including but not limited to technical, refereeing, arbitral, administrative, or advisory functions.

Following such exclusions, the Legal Commission shall designate, **by random draw**, three (3) members to constitute the Disciplinary Tribunal and one (1) additional member, also designated by random draw, to act as an alternate.

The alternate member shall replace any originally designated member who is unavailable or who is subsequently required to withdraw due to a conflict of interest.

The Legal Commission shall designate the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal from among the three members appointed.

7.2.4 *Independence of the Disciplinary Tribunal – challenge*

Members shall act independently and impartially and shall not receive instructions from any FIE body.

Each member designated to sit on the Disciplinary Tribunal shall have a **continuing duty** to disclose, without delay, any circumstance that could give rise to a conflict of interest or to reasonable doubts as to independence or impartiality.

Any member identifying such a circumstance shall decline the appointment or withdraw from the proceedings, as appropriate.

Any member who has, or appears to have, a conflict of interest shall recuse himself or herself without delay.

Parties may challenge a member by submitting a reasoned request within 10 days of being notified of the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal, or thereafter, within ten days of becoming aware of any fact giving rise to the challenge.

The challenged member shall be given the opportunity to submit observations.

The request shall be decided promptly by the FIE Legal Commission.

The decision on recusal shall not be subject to a separate internal appeal but may be challenged in an appeal against the final decision before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

7.2.5 *Confidentiality*

All the proceedings, including complaints, submissions, evidence and deliberations, shall remain strictly confidential.

Access to the case file shall be limited to the parties, the appointed Disciplinary Tribunal members and to any other competent decision-making body (including the FIE Bureau in

case of emergency, as per Article 7.2.15 and the Legal Commission where necessary, on a strict need-to-know basis).

No member of any entity or body or party shall disclose information relating to the proceedings unless required for the proper conduct of the case, the enforcement of a decision, compliance with legal obligations, or proceedings before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

7.2.6 *Participants in the disciplinary proceedings*

The participants in the disciplinary proceedings (the "Participants") shall be:

a) the Defendant(s)
b) the complainant if s/he considers him/herself as a victim of the Defendant
c) a legal representative appointed by the Bureau to look after the interests of the FIE
d) the Ethics Committee, when it has lodged the complaint, to act as the prosecutor pursuant to article 5 of the Ethics Code.

7.2.7 *Initiation of the proceedings*

Within thirty (30) days from the designation of its members, the Disciplinary Tribunal shall initiate the disciplinary proceedings by notifying the Defendant and other relevant Participants of:

a) the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal;
b) a copy of the complaint and of the accompanying documents, including any translation;
c) the applicable provisions;
d) the procedural rights of the Defendant.

Notifications shall be made by the Disciplinary Tribunal directly to the parties, by any means allowing proof of receipt.

*7.2.8 The Participants' fundamental rights*

The Defendant has the right to:

a) be heard;

b) access the case file;

c) submit written statements and evidence;

d) be assisted or represented by a person of his or her choice.

The Disciplinary Tribunal determines at its discretion the procedural rights of the other Participants.

7.2.9 *Burden and standard of proof*

The burden of proof lies with the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Participant alleging an offence has a reinforced duty of cooperation to assist in establishing the facts.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall decide on the basis of its comfortable satisfaction, bearing in mind the seriousness of the alleged violation.

7.2.10 *Evidence and Rapporteur*

The Disciplinary Tribunal has full authority to establish the facts and may order any investigative measure it deems appropriate.

Any relevant and reliable evidence may be admitted. The Disciplinary Tribunal may request documents, hear witnesses and experts, and obtain any information it considers necessary.

The Tribunal shall have full discretion to assess the evidence and to determine its probative value.

The statements of the Directoire Technique of a competition, properly constituted, and of FIE supervisors shall be presumed accurate unless proven otherwise.

The Tribunal may appoint a Rapporteur from among its members to review the file, gather evidence and prepare a report.

An unjustified refusal by any Participant to cooperate or to provide requested information may be taken into account in the assessment of the evidence and may give rise to disciplinary sanctions.

7.2.11 *Hearings*

**A - Format**

The Disciplinary Tribunal has the discretion to conduct the proceedings:

a) in writing;

b) by videoconference; or

c) by holding an in-person hearing.

The Tribunal determines whether a hearing is required, taking into account the complexity of the case, the seriousness of the alleged violation, and the Participants' procedural rights. If it does not take place remotely, the hearing will be held at the administrative office of the FIE or in another place chosen by the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal for reasons of convenience.

If the hearing takes place in person, the Participants will be responsible for the cost of their own travel and accommodation, as well as that of any representatives, witnesses or experts they may call. However, if the Disciplinary Tribunal calls the witnesses or experts, the FIE will support their travel and accommodation costs.

**B - Summons**

The summons must be sent to the Participants at least twenty (20) days in advance, indicating the date, time and format of the hearing. It must be accompanied by any documents that have not yet been yet communicated to the Participants.

No later than eight (8) days before the hearing, the Defendant shall:

– submit a statement of defence, together with written supporting evidence;

– identify the witnesses and experts relied upon and indicate their relevance; the Participants may submit written witness statements, which shall be dated and signed by the witnesses; the Disciplinary Tribunal may request that the witnesses confirm the contents of their witness statements orally; all Participants may request to cross-examine the witnesses at the hearing.

The Disciplinary Tribunal may grant the other Participants the right to submit written submissions and additional evidence.

Failure by a duly notified Participant to appear or participate shall not prevent the Tribunal from proceeding, holding the hearing and rendering a decision.

**C - Conduct of the hearing**

Hearings shall be conducted by the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal in a fair and orderly manner, ensuring due process and equality of arms.

Unless otherwise decided for justified reasons, all the members of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall participate in the hearing. Participation by videoconference shall be deemed equivalent to physical presence.

The Participants may present their case, submit evidence, call and examine witnesses and experts, and make oral submissions, subject to the Tribunal's authority to determine the order, relevance and admissibility. They are not required to attend in person. They can be represented at the hearing by someone with a written power of attorney. If the hearing takes place in person, the Participants may request to attend remotely via teleconference or videoconference.

The Disciplinary Tribunal, respectively the President shall:

– verify the identity of the Participants, witnesses and experts;

– invite the Rapporteur, where appointed, to present the report;

– hear the Participants;

– examine the witnesses and experts, who will attend the hearing in person or remotely; they will be examined separately and subsequently, outside the presence of each other; the President may allow the Participants to examine and cross-examine the witnesses and experts.

– determine the relevance and admissibility of evidence;

– order any additional investigative measure necessary to establish the facts.

The President has the authority to waive the examination of a witness or an expert.

The President may take any procedural measure necessary for the orderly conduct of the hearing, including excluding any person disrupting the proceedings. He may also designate a secretary for the hearing, to keep a record of the various statements under his control.

Any person requested to provide testimony or documents shall cooperate in good faith. In case of unjustified refusal, the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal may impose a fine ranging from CHF 500 to CHF 5,000 after giving the person concerned the opportunity to provide an explanation.

The Defendant or their representative shall be given the opportunity to speak last.

**D. Additional Investigation**

In case of difficulty, the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal may request from the President of the Legal Commission or from the Executive Committee an additional period not exceeding three (3) months in order to gather supplementary information.

Any supplementary information shall be communicated to the Defendant and to the other Participants, who shall be invited to respond within the time limit indicated in the cover letter.

Where necessary, a new hearing may be convened. It shall be held under the same terms and conditions as the initial hearing.

**E. Confidentiality of the hearing**

Hearings shall not be public unless the Tribunal decides otherwise with the consent of the parties.

The hearing may be recorded and/or transcribed. If so, the recording or transcript shall form part of the case file and shall remain confidential.

7.2.12 *Deliberations*

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall deliberate in private and deliberations shall remain confidential.

Only members of the Disciplinary Tribunal may participate in the deliberations.

Decisions shall be taken by a majority vote. The name of any member in minority shall not be disclosed in the decision or otherwise.

7.2.13 *Decision*

The decision shall be reasoned in writing and shall include the following:

a) the names of the members of the Disciplinary Tribunal;

b) the names of the Defendant and of the other Participants;

c) the date of the decision;

d) a summary of the facts;

e) the applicable legal provisions;

f) the reasoning of the Disciplinary Tribunal;

g) the sanction imposed, if any;

h) the available appeal remedies and the applicable time limits.

The decision must be signed by at least the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal. Electronic signatures shall be deemed valid.

Clerical or typographical errors may be corrected at any time.

7.2.14 *Notification, publication and enforcement of decisions*

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall notify its decision by email, with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery, to the relevant Participants, with a copy to the FIE's Head Office.

The President of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall also send copies of the decision to the President of the FIE and the President of the Legal Commission by e-mail.

Decisions shall be enforceable upon notification, unless the Disciplinary Tribunal expressly decides otherwise.

Member Federations shall cooperate with and assist the FIE in the implementation and enforcement of disciplinary decisions.

The FIE may publish decisions or summaries thereof, where appropriate, subject to confidentiality and data protection requirements.

7.2.15 *Appeal*

Any final decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal or the FIE Bureau taken in application of the present Code may be appealed exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, to the exclusion of ordinary courts.

The time limit for filing an appeal is twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the decision.

7.2.16 *Effect of procedural irregularities*

A procedural irregularity shall lead to the annulment of a decision by the Disciplinary Tribunal of by the CAS where it has materially affected the rights of the defence or the outcome of the proceedings.

Minor, formal or harmless procedural defects shall not invalidate an otherwise lawful and reasoned decision.

Before the notification of the decision, the Disciplinary Tribunal may remedy any procedural irregularity and, where necessary, reopen the proceedings in order to safeguard due process.

After the notification of the decision, the Disciplinary Tribunal may correct clerical errors, clarify the operative part of the decision, or issue a supplementary decision in case of an omission to rule. In case of gross violation of due process, it may revoke its decision and reconsider the merits of the case.

7.2.17 *Pronouncements*

All the decisions pronounced by the Disciplinary Tribunal or by CAS shall be brought to the attention of the Congress at its next meeting.

7.2.18 *Provisional measures – emergency power of the FIE Bureau*

**A. Power to order provisional measures**

In cases of urgency, the Bureau of the FIE may, within its adjudicatory powers, where the circumstances so require, in particular to safeguard the integrity of the proceedings, the proper administration of justice, or the interests of the FIE, order provisional measures.

Provisional measures may include, inter alia, the provisional suspension of a licence or any other appropriate administrative measure.

Such measures may be taken only where the seriousness of the alleged offence or its consequences so require.

**B. Procedure before the bureau**

Prior to any decision, the President of the FIE shall summon the Defendant and other interested Participants, including the Complainant(s), before the Bureau by email with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery, at least one (1) week before the meeting.

The summons shall specify that the Defendant and other Participants may be assisted or represented by the person of their choice.

At the meeting, the Bureau shall verify that the summons has been duly notified to the Defendant and other Participants.

The Bureau shall ensure that the Defendant has been given the opportunity to be heard before any provisional measure is imposed, unless exceptional circumstances justify immediate action.

**C. Decision and effect**

At the close of the meeting, the Bureau shall notify its decision to the Defendant and other Participants, including the Complainant(s), by email with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery. The decision shall be deemed effective from the date of transmission.

The decision shall state the grounds on which it is based.

The decision shall be binding and subject to appeal in accordance with Article 7.2.12.

**D. Duration and review**

The Bureau shall determine the duration of any provisional measure.

Any provisional suspension shall not extend beyond the date of the decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

If the Disciplinary Tribunal imposes a suspension, the period of provisional suspension ordered by the Bureau shall be credited against the final sanction.

Provisional measures may be lifted or modified at any time if the circumstances so justify.

**E. Reporting**

The Bureau shall report any provisional measure ordered under this Article at the next ordinary meeting of the Executive Committee.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made several changes on the wording.

## 7.1 DISCIPLINARY CODE

### 7.1.1 Scope and Object

The Disciplinary Code describes infringements of the rules in FIE Statutes, Rules, Administrative Rules, Ethics Code, Safeguarding Policy, discipline or sportsmanship within the purview of the International Fencing Federation (FIE), (including any of its confederations that have subjected themselves to this FIE Disciplinary Code and/or the decisions of the Disciplinary Panel (cf. Article 4.6 and 6.7.1), hereinafter referred to as "the Joined Confederations").

It determines the sanctions incurred, regulates the organisation and functions of a ~~the~~ FIE Disciplinary Tribunal, as well as the procedures to be followed before it.

~~It does not apply to~~ dDiscipline at the sites of the competitions, ~~which~~ is primarily subject to in Articles t. 107 ~~114~~ et seq. of the Technical Rules ~~for Competitions~~ of the FIE. Depending on the gravity of the offences established based on the Technical Rules of the FIE, the Disciplinary Code might be applicable separately from and in addition to the disciplinary procedures set out in Chapter 2 of the Technical Rules of the FIE (t.134 et seq). Where the Disciplinary Code is applicable, in the event of any conflict or inconsistency, decisions adopted pursuant to the Disciplinary Code shall prevail the decisions taken under Articles t.134 et seq. of the Technical Rules the FIE.

The disciplinary decisions made based on Article t.140 of the Technical Rules of the FIE are subject to appeal to the Disciplinary Panel of the FIE.

No one can intervene in, influence, or otherwise interfere with the adjudication of disciplinary matters or the independence of the Disciplinary Panel.

The Executive Committee will ensure the recognition, enforcement, and execution of final and binding disciplinary decisions.

Within the meaning of the Disciplinary Code, “the Disciplinary Tribunal” shall mean the adjudicatory body appointed from the Disciplinary Panel in accordance with Article 7.2.3.

### 7.1.2 *Material scope of application*

1. This Code applies to any conduct that:

   a) occurs during activities organised, recognised, or sanctioned by the FIE or the Joined Confederations (competitions, events, training activities, officials’

functions, governance, elections or decision-making processes, commercial or representational activities); or

b) occurs outside such activities but has a direct or indirect impact on the FIE or the Joined Confederations, its competitions, governance, decisions, reputation, or members.

2. Disciplinary jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Panel applies irrespective of nationality and domicile of the D~~d~~efendant, or the place where the conduct occurred, provided that the conduct has a sufficient factual, functional, or regulatory connection to the FIE or the Joined Confederations, ~~its~~ their activities, competitions, governance, or institutional interests.

7.1.3 *Subsidiarity of national jurisdiction*

Disciplinary offences arising from matters of a purely internal nature within a M~~m~~ember F~~f~~ederation shall, in principle, fall within the competence and jurisdiction of that federation, in accordance with its own rules.

The jurisdiction of the FIE Disciplinary Panel may nevertheless be invoked where the conduct:

a) has an international dimension of particular seriousness;
b) affects one or more persons affiliated with, licensed by, or originating from another M~~m~~ember F~~f~~ederation; or
c) affects the interests or reputation of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

In such cases, the FIE Disciplinary Panel shall be competent to hear and adjudicate the matter, either ex officio, or upon referral by the federation concerned or upon request of the affected persons, in accordance with this Disciplinary Code.

7.1.4 *Personal scope of application*

The following are subject to this Code:

- All Member Federations.
- All Joined Confederations.
- All individuals who are licensees, accredited or authorised by the FIE or by a Member Federation or by any of the Joined Confederations, including fencers, coaches, referees, judges, officials, representatives, staff and entourage of the fencers, therapists etc.
- The FIE employees and the members of the Executive Committee, the members of all the FIE Commissions, Committees and Councils.
- All individuals assigned by the FIE to exercise a function, in particular with regard to a competition or other event organised by the FIE or Member Federations.
- All other associations, and other legal entities affiliated with or recognised by the FIE, and their members, officials and representatives.
- All individuals attending events organised or recognised by the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

Acceptance of a licence, accreditation, or participation in an ~~FIE sanctioned~~ event sanctioned by the FIE or the Joined Confederations constitutes acceptance of this Disciplinary Code.

~~7.1.5 *Disciplinary code for* competitions~~

~~The present rules take priority over the rules figuring in the Rules for Competitions of the FIE and in particular at Article t.94ss, Disciplinary Code for Competitions.~~

**Disciplinary offences**

7.1.6 *Category of offences (non-exhaustive)*

1. Without prejudice the non-exhaustive nature of the catalogue set out in this Code, the following acts or omissions shall, in particular, constitute disciplinary offences where they are committed intentionally or negligently and have a sufficient connection to the FIE or the Joined Confederations, its activities, governance, competitions, or interests:

   a) **Violation** : any violation of the Statutes, Rules, Administrative Rules, regulations, directives, or binding decisions of the FIE or of any Joined Confederation.

   b) **Unsportsmanlike conduct**: any conduct contrary to the principles of fair play, respect, or sportsmanship expected within ~~FIE~~ the activities or competitions of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

   c) **Brutality** : any act of excessive or disproportionate physical force ~~committed in connection with FIE activities or competitions~~.

   d) **Aggression**: any aggressive behaviour, whether physical or verbal, that exceeds what is reasonably acceptable in the sporting context.

   e) **Abuse** : any form of verbal, physical, mental, or sexual abuse ~~committed in connection with FIE activities, competitions, or governance~~.

   f) **Corruption**: any act or omission involving bribery, undue influence, or improper advantage intended to distort decision-making, competition outcomes, selections, or governance processes.

   g) **Embezzlement**: unlawful or improper appropriation, use, or diversion of funds or assets belonging to the FIE, a Joined Confederation, or any entity acting within the FIE framework.

   h) **False declaration**: any false, misleading, or incomplete declaration made when entering a competition, applying for accreditation, or standing as a candidate for election or appointment.

   i) **Publicity violation**: any violation of the FIE Publicity Code or of regulations governing advertising, sponsorship, image rights, or commercial representation.

   j) **Black card**: receipt of a black card during a competition, where such sanction is designated by the applicable rules as giving rise to disciplinary proceedings beyond the field of play.

   k) **Ethics** : any conduct constituting an attack on sporting morals, ethical principles, or the fundamental values of the FIE.

   l) **Disorder**: any act of provocation, disturbance, or disorder capable of disrupting competitions, events, official functions, or disciplinary proceedings.

   m) **Threat**: any threat, whether explicit or implicit, directed at a person or entity in connection with ~~FIE~~ the activities or interests of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

   n) **Harassment**: any repeated or serious unwanted conduct, including verbal or non-verbal behaviour, that violates a person's dignity or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

   o) **Fraud**: fraud, including any intentional act or omission designed to deceive the FIE or the Joined Confederations, its bodies, officials, or participants for the purpose of obtaining an undue advantage or causing harm.

   p) **Theft**: theft or misappropriation of property, funds, documents, or assets belonging to the FIE or the Joined Confederations, a M~~m~~ember F~~f~~ederation, or any person acting within the FIE or the Joined Confederations framework.

q) **Misrepresentation**: false, misleading, or incomplete statements, declarations, or representations made knowingly or recklessly in disciplinary, administrative, electoral, contractual, or competition-related matters.

r) **Defamation**: defamation or any conduct causing unjustified damage to the reputation, integrity, or honour of the FIE or the Joined Confederations, its bodies, officials, members, or participants, where such conduct is connected to ~~FIE~~ the activities or interests of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

s) **Malice:** malicious prosecution, including the intentional initiation of disciplinary or other proceedings based on facts known to be false or grossly distorted, with the aim of harming another person or entity or abusing ~~FIE~~ the procedures of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

t) **Abuse of position:** use of an official position, mandate, or function within the FIE or the Joined Confederations or a M~~m~~ember F~~f~~ederation to obtain an undue advantage, to confer an unjustified benefit on a third party, or to cause harm to another person or entity.

u) **Conflict of interest:** failure to disclose, manage, or abstain from decision-making in the presence of an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest, where such conflict is liable to compromise impartiality, integrity, or trust in ~~FIE~~ the processes of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

v) **Disloyalty:** any conduct contrary to the duties of loyalty, diligence, care, or good faith owed to the ~~Federation~~ FIE or the Joined Confederations by virtue of an elected, appointed, or entrusted position.

w) **Circumvention**: any act or omission intended to evade, frustrate, undermine, or render ineffective the application of the FIE Statutes, regulations, decisions, or sanctions of the FIE or the Joined Confederations, including through the use of intermediaries or third parties.

x) **Obstruction:** any conduct that interferes with the proper conduct of disciplinary proceedings, including but not limited to:

- influencing, intimidating, or pressuring witnesses or parties;
- tampering with, concealing, or destroying evidence;
- providing false or misleading information to disciplinary bodies.

y) **Non-compliance:** unjustified refusal or failure to comply with requests, summonses, or instructions issued by the FIE or the Joined Confederations or its disciplinary bodies in the context of investigations or proceedings.

z) **Retaliation:** any adverse action, threat, or form of pressure directed against a person for having filed a complaint, provided testimony, supplied information, or otherwise cooperated in good faith with the FIE or the Joined Confederations or its disciplinary bodies.

aa) **Abuse of process:** initiation or pursuit of disciplinary proceedings in bad faith, including the repeated filing of frivolous, vexatious, or manifestly unfounded complaints with the intent to harass, intimidate, or cause reputational or procedural harm.

bb) **Manipulation:** any undue influence or interference with selection, nomination, ranking, or classification processes governed by ~~FIE~~ the rules of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

cc) **Unauthorised disclosure of confidential information:** disclosure, use, or exploitation of confidential or non-public information obtained through FIE or Joined Confederation activities, positions, or proceedings, without authorisation or legitimate purpose.

dd) **Ineligibility**: any false, misleading, or incomplete representation concerning eligibility, licence status, affiliation, qualification, or entitlement under ~~FIE~~ the rules of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

ee) **Disrepute:** any conduct that materially damages, or is likely to materially damage, the reputation, credibility, or authority of the FIE or the Joined Confederations at national or international level.

ff) **Unauthorised representation**: acting, speaking, negotiating, or engaging commercially in the name of, or on behalf of, the FIE or the Joined Confederations without proper authorisation, or in violation of ~~FIE~~ the ~~-~~rules of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

gg) **Falsification:** alteration, fabrication, or misuse of official documents, records, data, or communications relating to ~~FIE~~ the activities or governance of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.

hh) **Incompatibility:** any other conduct that, by its nature, gravity, or consequences, is incompatible with the proper functioning, objectives, or integrity of the FIE or the Joined Confederations, where the consequences of ~~provided that~~ such conduct are ~~is~~ sufficiently foreseeable and proportionately sanctioned.

ii) **Safe-sport infraction**: Any harassment or abuse within the definitions of Chapter XIII of these statutes (FIE Safeguarding Policy) that results in a formal complaint to the Disciplinary Panel.

jj) **Obstruction of Investigations:** Assisting or supporting the perpetrator of an offence, or otherwise acting with the purpose of preventing, obstructing or hindering an investigation or disciplinary proceedings.

2. Any conduct that violates the Statutes, Rules, Administrative Rules, regulations, codes, directives, or binding decisions of the FIE or the Joined Confederations, or that infringes the duties of integrity, loyalty, good faith, or discipline owed to the FIE or the Joined Confederations, may give rise to disciplinary proceedings, even if not expressly listed above.

3. Violations of the Anti-doping Rules of the FIE are not submitted to the jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Tribunal of the FIE. They are treated in accordance with the FIE Anti-doping Rules.

4. The qualification of conduct as a disciplinary offence shall be made on the basis of its substance and effects, and not solely on its formal classification or the terminology used by the parties during the disciplinary procedure provided for in Article 7.2.

7.1.7 *Attempt*

An attempted offence is punishable if the offence was only prevented by circumstances beyond the control of the offender.
Attempt is sanctioned as the completed offence.

7.1.8 *Complicity*

Any person who intentionally assists, instigates, facilitates, or provides means for an offence is punishable as the principal offender.
Knowledge of the offence and contribution to its commission are sufficient.

7.1.9 *Multiple offences*

Where several offences are committed, sanctions may be cumulative.
However, ~~T~~the Disciplinary Tribunal may decide to impose only the most severe sanction~~,~~ by giving reasons for such a decision.

7.1.10 *Repetition of an offence*

A Defendant shall be considered a repeat offender where he/she:

a) ~~the Defendant~~ has been the subject of a final and binding disciplinary decision imposing a sanction for a disciplinary offence; and
b) ~~the Defendant~~ commits a new disciplinary offence of the same category or a new disciplinary offence that has sufficient connection with the previous one(s) in the Tribunal's opinion ~~or greater seriousness~~ within a period of two (2) years from the date of his/her notification of that final decision.

Repetition of an offence ~~does not constitute a separate disciplinary offence. It~~ shall constitute an aggravating circumstance and shall be expressly taken into account by the Disciplinary Panel when determining the nature and severity of the sanction to be imposed for the subsequent offence.

7.1.11 *Limitation Period*

A complaint must be addressed and submitted to the Head Office of the FIE within two (2) years from the date on which the alleged offence became known to the Complainant ~~FIE~~. No complaint can be submitted after ten (10) years following the occurrence of the alleged offence.

Notwithstanding the above, the following special rules on limitation shall apply in the following cases:

a) in the case of allegations of corruption, a limitation period of five (5) years shall apply commencing on the date on which the alleged offence became known to the Complainant. No complaint can be submitted after ten (~~15~~ **10**) years following the occurrence of the alleged offence.
b) In the case of allegations of sexual abuse, abuse of minors, serious safeguarding violations, no limitation period shall apply.

The limitation period shall be deemed observed if the complaint is sent by post within the time limit indicated in this Article and the Complainant can prove such dispatch, or if it is delivered personally to the Head Office of the FIE, or transmitted by e-mail, provided that the complainant can prove receipt thereof by the Head Office of the FIE.

In the case of a continuing or concealed offence, the limitation period shall run from the date on which the conduct ceased or was discovered.

**Sanctions**

7.1.12 *Penalties*

The Disciplinary Tribunal of the FIE may impose one or more of the following penalties, either individually or cumulatively:

a) **Warning**: a formal notice indicating that the Defendant's conduct is incompatible with the rules or principles of the FIE, serving as an official admonition and a warning that any repetition or similar conduct may give rise to more severe disciplinary sanctions, without entailing further immediate disciplinary consequences.

b) **Censure**: A formal reprimand expressing official disapproval of the Defendant's conduct, recorded in the disciplinary record.

c) **Disqualification**: entails the annulment of all results, classifications, rankings, points, and awards obtained by the Defendant in the tournament or competition concerned.

d) **Suspension**: deprives the Defendant, for a specified period, of the right to participate in any sporting, administrative, official, or other activity organised, recognised, or authorised by the FIE, the zonal confederations, the M~~m~~ember F~~f~~ederations, or their affiliated bodies. Suspension entails the withdrawal of the relevant licence(s) for the entire duration of the suspension.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall expressly determine:

- the commencement date of the suspension;
- its duration;
- its material and personal scope.

Where a legal entity (including a federation, club, or association) is suspended, the suspension shall extend to all persons licensed by, affiliated with, or acting on behalf of that entity, unless the Disciplinary Tribunal expressly authorises, under defined conditions, the continued exercise of individual activities.

Any violation of a suspension constitutes a separate disciplinary offence and shall result, at a minimum, in the extension or doubling of the remaining suspension period, without prejudice to the imposition of additional sanctions.

The FIE Head Office shall ensure that any suspension is promptly notified to all M~~m~~ember F~~f~~ederations and relevant bodies upon its entry into force.

e) **Expulsion**: permanently excludes the Defendant from all activities falling within the fencing domain and under the authority of the FIE or the Joined Confederations.
Expulsion may be imposed only in cases of:

- particularly serious offences; or
- repeated disciplinary offences demonstrating a persistent disregard for FIE rules and principles.

f) **Fines**: may be imposed on any Defendant, whether an individual or a legal entity.
Unless otherwise provided:

- individuals: minimum CHF 125 – maximum CHF 12,500;
- legal entities: minimum CHF 225 – maximum CHF 22,500.

Where multiple fines are imposed in respect of multiple offences, the fines may be cumulative, and the total amount may exceed the maximum provided for a single fine.
Failure to pay a fine within the prescribed deadline may give rise to additional disciplinary measures.

g) **Accessory penalties**: may be imposed in addition to a principal penalty where justified by the circumstances of the case.
Accessory penalties may include, in particular,~~:~~ but not be limited to

- prohibition from accessing specified venues or locations for a defined period;
- ineligibility to hold elected or appointed positions at national or international level;
- withdrawal of titles, honours, distinctions, or awards.

In determining the sanction, the Disciplinary Tribunal shall consider the level of seriousness of the offence, intent or negligence, harm caused, position of responsibility, prior disciplinary record, cooperation, remorse, remediation, aggravating and mitigating circumstances, and the need to protect athletes and the integrity of fencing.

7.1.13 *Suspended sentence*
All penalties except warnings may be totally or partially suspended for a probationary period of two (2) years.

If no offence of equal or greater seriousness is committed during the probationary period, the suspended penalty shall not be enforced.

In the event of reoffending, the suspended penalty shall be automatically enforced in addition to the new sanction.

7.1.14 *Publication of decisions*

A summary of f~~F~~inal~~.~~ disciplinary decisions and the penalties imposed will be published by the FIE, including on its official website ~~and in its official publications (official magazine of the FIE).~~ unless both parties agree that it shall remain confidential.

Publication shall be proportionate and limited to what is necessary to ensure transparency, deterrence, and the protection of the integrity of the sport, while respecting applicable data protection requirements~~.~~, other details of the case shall remain confidential.

7.1.15 *The Disciplinary Panel acting as appealing body*

Any decision taken based on Article t.140 of the Technical Rules of the FIE may be appealed exclusively to the Disciplinary Panel. The time limit for filing an appeal is twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the decision.

The rules for Disciplinary Procedure set forth in Article 7.2 shall apply, with the necessary modifications, to the appeal proceedings.

**Procedural rules**

## 7.2 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

7.2.1 *Right to lodge a complaint*

The following may lodge a complaint ~~with the FIE Head Office~~ (hereinafter referred to as "the Complainant(s)):

a) any individual or legal entity directly affected by the alleged offence, including, but not limited, to the victims, witnesses of the alleged offence, parents or guardians of minor athletes who are victims of the alleged offence, coaches of athletes who are victims of the alleged offence;

b) the FIE Executive Committee;

c) the FIE Bureau;

d) the FIE Ethics Committee for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code ~~or an Ethics Committee advice~~;

e) any other FIE body or official acting within its mandate;

f) a Member Federation or a Joined Confederation;

g) the FIE supervisors or the FIE event managers at international competitions, and

h) the Directoire Technique.

The lodging of a complaint does not confer party status beyond what is expressly provided for in this Disciplinary Code.

7.2.2 *Form of the complaint*

The complaint shall be submitted in writing, in one of the official working languages of the FIE, at the FIE Head office. In the case the Defendant is a person It shall contain:

a) the full name of the individual or entity, the nationality, address and title of the ~~c~~Complainant(s);

b) the full name of the individual or entity and nationality of the person being accused, if known, a statement ~~or the indication~~ that their identity and/or address is unknown;
d) a concise statement of the relevant facts;
e) the alleged violations and ~~with an indication of~~ the rule or principle infringed;
f) any available supporting evidence;
g) the objectives of the ~~c~~Complainant
h) the signature of the ~~c~~Complainant In the case the Complainant is a minor, the complaint shall also be signed by the parent or guardian of the Complainant, except where the Defendant is the parent or guardian of the Complainant.

The complaint can be accompanied by any documents necessary for the investigative file. Additional or new information can be communicated up to 30 days after the complaint is submitted or upon request of the Disciplinary Tribunal, at its discretion.

Anonymous complaints shall not constitute admissible complaints, but the FIE Head Office may refer them to the Bureau to determine whether they should be referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

7.2.3 *Admissibility of the ~~C~~complaint and appointment of the Disciplinary Tribunal*

Within twenty (20) days from the receipt of a complaint and after having translated any accompanying documents into the language of the proceedings, the FIE Head Office shall inform the President of the Legal Commission of:

a) the existence of the complaint; and
b) the identity of the parties concerned.

The FIE Head Office shall send the copy of the complaint and the accompanying documents that are filed to the President of the Legal Commission.

The Legal Commission, or a Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose, shall within ten (10) working days of its receipt of the complaint and the accompanying documents examine whether the complaint:

a) is time-barred pursuant to the limitations set forth in Article 7.1.10. The date indicated by the postmark of the envelope or, in the case of electronic submission, the proof of electronic transmission shall be deemed to establish the date of filing of the complaint and, consequently, the compliance with the applicable time limit;
b) is without a doubt outside the scope of this Disciplinary Code; and
c) fails to contain all mandatory elements required under Article 7.2.2.

In the cases referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above, the Legal Commission, or a Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose, shall declare ~~a~~ the complaint inadmissible ~~where:~~ In the case referred to in subparagraph c) above, the Legal Commission, or a Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose, shall notify the FIE Head Office within ten (10) working days of its receipt of the complaint. In such case, the FIE Head Office may grant the Complainant an additional period of ten (10) working days to remedy the deficiencies. Failure to comply with this deadline shall result in the rejection of the complaint by the FIE Head Office. The Complainant shall be expressly warned of this legal consequence in the request to cure the deficiencies.

~~a) it is manifestly unfounded;~~
~~b) it is outside the scope of this Code; or~~
~~c) it is time-barred pursuant to article 7.1.11. The date indicated by the postmark of the envelope or, in the case of electronic submission, the proof of electronic transmission~~

~~shall be deemed to establish the date of filing of the complaint and, consequently, the compliance with the applicable time limit.~~

Where the complaint is not declared inadmissible under the procedures set forth above, the Legal Commission, or a S~~s~~ub-committee duly designated for this purpose, shall, **within ten (10) working days** of being informed of the complaint by the FIE Head Office, proceed to ~~the constitution of~~ appoint the Disciplinary Tribunal.

Should a complaint be found not to contain all mandatory elements required under Article 7.2.2, but the FIE Head Office has allowed and received a supplemented complaint containing all mandatory elements required under Article 7.2.2, the 10-working day deadline commences on the following day that the Legal Commission, or a Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose, receives the supplemented complaint from the FIE Head Office.

In ~~For this the purpose~~ appointing the Disciplinary Tribunal, the Legal Commission shall first exclude from eligibility any member of the Disciplinary Panel who:

a) has a conflict of interest;
b) represents, or is affiliated with, a country directly concerned by the proceedings; or
c) has previously been involved in the matter in any other capacity, including but not limited to technical, refereeing, arbitral, administrative, or advisory functions.

Following such exclusions, the Legal Commission shall designate, **by random draw**, three (3) members to constitute the Disciplinary Tribunal and one (1) additional member, also designated by random draw, to act as an alternate.

The alternate member shall replace any originally designated member who is unavailable or who is subsequently required to withdraw due to a conflict of interest.

The Legal Commission or the Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose shall designate the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal from among the three members appointed.

7.2.4 *Independence of the Disciplinary Tribunal – challenge*

Members shall act independently and impartially and shall not receive instructions from any FIE body.

Each member designated to sit on the Disciplinary Tribunal shall have a **continuing duty** to disclose, without delay, any circumstance that could give rise to a conflict of interest or to reasonable doubts as to independence or impartiality.

Any member identifying such a circumstance shall decline the appointment or withdraw from the proceedings, as appropriate.

Any member who has, or appears to have, a conflict of interest shall recuse himself or herself without delay.

Parties may challenge a member by submitting a reasoned request within 10 days of being notified of the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal, or thereafter, within ten days of becoming aware of any fact giving rise to the challenge.

The challenged member shall be given the opportunity to submit observations.

The request shall be decided promptly by the FIE Legal Commission or the Sub-committee selected thereof for this purpose.

The decision on recusal shall not be subject to a separate internal appeal but may be challenged in an appeal against the final decision before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

7.2.5 *Confidentiality*

All the proceedings, including complaints, submissions, evidence and deliberations, shall remain strictly confidential.

Access to the case file shall be limited to the parties, the appointed Disciplinary Tribunal members and to any other competent decision-making body (including the FIE Bureau in case of emergency, as per Article 7.2.15 and the Legal Commission where necessary, on a strict need-to-know basis).

No member of any entity or body or party shall disclose information relating to the proceedings unless required for the proper conduct of the case, the enforcement of a decision, compliance with legal obligations, or proceedings before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

7.2.6 *Participants in the disciplinary proceedings*

The P~~p~~articipants in the disciplinary proceedings (the "Participants") shall be:

a) the Defendant(s)
b) the ~~c~~Complainant ~~if s/he considers him/herself as a victim of the Defendant~~
~~c) a legal representative appointed by the Bureau to look after the interests of the FIE~~
d) the Ethics Committee, when it has lodged the complaint, to act as the prosecutor pursuant to ~~a~~Article 5 of the Ethics Code.

7.2.7 *Initiation of the proceedings*

Within thirty (30) days from the designation of its members, the Disciplinary Tribunal shall initiate the disciplinary proceedings by notifying the Defendant and other relevant Participants of:

a) the composition of the Disciplinary Tribunal;
b) a copy of the complaint and of the accompanying documents, including any translation;
c) the applicable procedural provisions;
d) the procedural rights of the Defendant.

Notifications shall be made by the Disciplinary Tribunal directly to the parties, by any means allowing proof of receipt.

*7.2.8 The Participants' fundamental rights*

The Defendant and the Complainant has the right to:

a) be heard;

b) access the case file;

c) submit written statements and evidence;

d) be assisted or represented by a person of his or her choice.

The Disciplinary Tribunal determines at its discretion the procedural rights of the other Participants.

7.2.9 *Burden and standard of proof*

The burden of proof lies with the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Participant alleging an offence has a reinforced duty of cooperation to assist in establishing the facts.

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall decide on the basis of its comfortable satisfaction bearing in mind the seriousness of the alleged violation and the consequences of the possible sanctions.

7.2.10 *Evidence and Rapporteur*

The Disciplinary Tribunal has full authority to establish the facts and may order any investigative measure it deems appropriate.

Any relevant and reliable evidence may be admitted. The Disciplinary Tribunal may request documents, hear witnesses and experts, and obtain any information it considers necessary.

The Tribunal shall have full discretion to assess the evidence and to determine its probative value.

The statements of the Directoire Technique of a competition, properly constituted, and of FIE supervisors shall be presumed accurate unless proven otherwise and/or in the case they are the Defendants in the disciplinary procedure.

The Tribunal may appoint a Rapporteur from among its members to review the file, gather evidence and prepare a report.

An unjustified refusal by any Participant to cooperate or to provide requested information may be taken into account in the assessment of the evidence and may give rise to disciplinary sanctions.

7.2.11 *Hearings*

**A - Format**

The Disciplinary Tribunal has the discretion to conduct the proceedings:

a) in writing;

b) by videoconference; or

c) by holding an in-person hearing.

The Tribunal shall set a hearing date, unless the Defendant admits the alleged violation. ~~determines whether a hearing is~~ required, ~~taking into account the complexity of the case, the seriousness of the alleged violation, and the Participants' procedural rights~~. If it does not take place remotely, the hearing will be held at the administrative office of the FIE or in another place chosen by the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal for reasons of convenience.

If the hearing takes place in person, the Participants will be responsible for the cost of their own travel and accommodation, as well as that of any representatives, witnesses or experts they may call. However, if the Disciplinary Tribunal calls the witnesses or experts, the FIE will support their travel and accommodation costs.

**B - Summons**

The summons must be sent to the Participants at least ~~twenty (20)~~ thirty (30) days in advance, indicating the date, time and format of the hearing. It must be accompanied by any documents that have not yet been yet communicated to the Participants.

No later than ~~eight (8)~~ fourteen (14) days before the hearing, the Defendant shall:

– submit a statement of defence, together with written supporting evidence;

– identify the witnesses and experts relied upon and indicate their relevance; the Participants may submit written witness statements, which shall be dated and signed

by the witnesses; the Disciplinary Tribunal may request that the witnesses confirm the contents of their witness statements orally; all Participants may request to cross-examine the witnesses at the hearing.

The Disciplinary Tribunal may grant the other Participants the right to submit written submissions and additional evidence.

Failure by a duly notified Participant to appear or participate shall not prevent the Tribunal from proceeding, holding the hearing and rendering a decision.

**C - Conduct of the hearing**

Hearings shall be conducted by the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal in a fair and orderly manner, ensuring due process and the principle of equality of arms.

Unless otherwise decided for justified reasons, all the members of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall participate in the hearing. Participation by videoconference shall be deemed equivalent to physical presence.

The Participants may present their case, submit evidence, call and examine witnesses and experts, and make oral submissions, subject to the Tribunal's authority to determine the order, relevance and admissibility. They are not required to attend in person. They can be represented at the hearing by someone with a written power of attorney. If the hearing takes place in person, the Participants may request to attend remotely via teleconference or videoconference.

The Disciplinary Tribunal~~, respectively~~ or the President, as the case may be, shall:

– verify the identity of the Participants, witnesses and experts;

– invite the Rapporteur, where appointed, to present the report;

– hear the Participants;

– examine the witnesses and experts, who will attend the hearing in person or remotely; they will be examined separately and subsequently, outside the presence of each other; the President may allow the Participants to examine and cross-examine the witnesses and experts.

– determine the relevance and admissibility of evidence;

– order any additional investigative measure necessary to establish the facts.

The President has the authority to waive the examination of a witness or an expert.

The President may take any procedural measure necessary for the orderly conduct of the hearing, including excluding any person disrupting the proceedings. He must ~~may~~ also designate a secretary for the hearing, to keep a record of the various statements under his control.

Any person requested to provide testimony or documents shall cooperate in good faith. In case of unjustified refusal, the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal may impose a fine ranging from CHF 500 to CHF 5,000 after giving the person concerned the opportunity to provide an explanation.

The Defendant or their representative shall be given the opportunity to speak last.

**D. Additional Investigation**

~~In case of difficulty,~~ Where the complexity of the case so requires, the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal may request from the President of the Legal Commission or from the Executive Committee an additional period not exceeding three (3) months in order to gather supplementary information.

Any supplementary information shall be communicated to the Defendant and to the other Participants, who shall be invited to respond within the time limit indicated in the cover letter.

Where necessary, a new hearing may be convened. It shall be held under the same terms and conditions as the initial hearing.

**E. Confidentiality of the hearing**

Hearings shall not be public unless the Disciplinary Tribunal decides otherwise with the consent of the parties.

The hearing may be recorded and/or transcribed. If so, the recording or transcript shall form part of the case file and shall remain confidential.

7.2.12 *Deliberations*

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall deliberate in private and deliberations shall remain confidential.

Only members of the Disciplinary Tribunal may participate in the deliberations.

Decisions shall be taken by a majority vote. The name of any member in minority shall not be disclosed in the decision or otherwise.

7.2.13 *Decision*

The decision shall be reasoned in writing and shall include the following:

a) the names of the members of the Disciplinary Tribunal;

b) the names of the Defendant and of the other Participants;

c) the date of the decision;

d) a summary of the facts;

e) the applicable legal provisions;

f) the reasoning of the Disciplinary Tribunal;

g) the sanction imposed, if any;

h) the available appeal remedies and the applicable time limits.

The decision must be signed by at least the President of the Disciplinary Tribunal. Electronic signatures shall be deemed valid.

Clerical or typographical errors may be corrected at any time.

7.2.14 *Notification, ~~publication~~ and enforcement of decisions*

The Disciplinary Tribunal shall notify the Participants, with a copy to the FIE's Head Office, of its decision by email, with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery~~, to the relevant Participants, with a copy to the FIE's Head Office~~.

The President of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall also send copies of the decision to the President of the FIE and the President of the Legal Commission by e-mail.

Decisions shall be enforceable upon notification, unless the Disciplinary Tribunal expressly decides otherwise.

Member Federations shall cooperate with and assist the FIE in the implementation and enforcement of disciplinary decisions.

~~The FIE may publish decisions or summaries thereof, where appropriate, subject to confidentiality and data protection requirements.~~

7.2.15 *Appeal*

Any final decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal or the FIE Bureau taken in application of the present Code may be appealed exclusively to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, to the exclusion of ordinary courts.

The time limit for filing an appeal is twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the decision.

The filing of an appeal shall not operate as a stay of execution of the challenged decision unless the Disciplinary Tribunal or, as the case may be, the CAS orders such stay upon a reasoned application by the appellant.

7.2.16 *Effect of procedural irregularities*

A procedural irregularity shall lead to the annulment of a decision of ~~by~~ the Disciplinary Tribunal ~~of~~ by the CAS where it has materially affected the rights of the defence or the outcome of the proceedings.

Minor, formal or harmless procedural defects shall not invalidate an otherwise lawful and reasoned decision.

Before the notification of the decision, the Disciplinary Tribunal may remedy any procedural irregularity and, where necessary, reopen the proceedings in order to safeguard due process.

After the notification of the decision, the Disciplinary Tribunal may correct clerical errors, clarify the operative part of the decision, or issue a supplementary decision in case of an omission to rule. In case of gross violation of due process, it may revoke its decision and reconsider the merits of the case.

7.2.17 ~~*Pronouncements*~~ Publication of the CAS decisions

~~All the decisions pronounced *Pronouncements* by the Disciplinary Tribunal or by CAS shall be brought to the attention of the Congress at its next meeting~~.

A summary of the decisions pronounced by CAS shall be brought to the attention of the Congress at its next meeting unless both parties had agreed at the CAS hearing that they should remain confidential. Any announcement at the Congress shall be limited to that made public by CAS.

7.2.18 *Provisional measures – emergency power of the FIE Bureau*

**A. Power to order provisional measures**

In cases of urgency, the Bureau of the FIE may, within its adjudicatory powers, where the circumstances so require, in particular to safeguard the integrity of the proceedings, the proper administration of justice, or the interests of the FIE, order provisional measures.

Provisional measures may include, inter alia, the provisional suspension of a licence or any other appropriate administrative measure~~.~~, prohibiting contact with victims or witnesses, prohibiting access to specific competitions, restricting accreditation, suspension from technical or managerial roles, and protecting the identity of minors, victims and reporting persons.

Such measures may be taken only where the seriousness of the alleged offence or its consequences so require.

**B. Procedure before the ~~b~~Bureau**

Prior to any decision referred to in Article 7.2.18, the President of the FIE shall summon the Defendant and other interested Participants, including the Complainant(s), before the Bureau by email with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery, at least one (1) week before the meeting.

The summons shall specify that the Defendant and other Participants may be assisted or represented by the person of their choice.

Participation on the meeting by videoconference shall be deemed equivalent to physical presence. At the meeting, the Bureau shall verify that the Defendant and other Participants have been duly notified of the summons ~~has been duly notified to the Defendant and other Participants~~.

The Bureau shall ensure that the Defendant has been given the opportunity to be heard before any provisional measure is imposed, unless exceptional circumstances justify immediate action.

**C. Decision and effect**

At the close of the meeting, the Bureau shall notify ~~its decision to~~ the Defendant and other Participants, including the Complainant(s), of its decision by email with acknowledgement of receipt or proof of delivery. The decision shall be deemed effective from the date of transmission.

The decision shall state the grounds on which it is based.

The decision shall be binding and subject to appeal in accordance with Article 7.2.15~~2~~.

**D. Duration and review**

The Bureau shall determine the duration of any provisional measure.

Any provisional suspension shall not extend beyond the date of the decision of the Disciplinary Tribunal.

If the Disciplinary Tribunal imposes a suspension, the period of provisional suspension ordered by the Bureau shall be credited against the final sanction.

Provisional measures may be lifted or modified at any time if the circumstances so justify.

**E. Reporting**

The Bureau shall report any provisional measure ordered under this Article at the next ordinary meeting of the Executive Committee.

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**Proposal 90**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 9.1.1**

**Motivation:** Licensees are not only athletes.

**9.1 LICENCES**

9.1.1 *Statutory Character of Licence*

Being licensed obliges the national federation and the ~~athlete~~ licensee to respect the Rules and Statutes of the FIE. Notably, the athletes who participate in FIE competitions commit to respecting the FIE anti-doping Rules, to use neither prohibited substances nor prohibited methods, and agree to submit to any in-competition and out-of-competition testing.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 91**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 9.1.4**

**Motivation:** If proposal on article 1.6 is accepted.

9.1.4 *Annual licence Fee*

Every application for a licence or licence renewal can only be made after the payment of a fee which is set for the following season by the Executive Committee ~~and approved by the Congress.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission is not in favour. The removal of the approval role of the Congress is in direct contradiction with Article 1.6 (Proposal 13) and Article 5.5.15 (Proposal 76.)

9.1.4 *Annual licence Fee*

Every application for a licence or licence renewal can only be made after the payment of a fee which is set for the following season by the Executive Committee ~~and approved by the Congress.~~ and approved by the Congress.

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**Proposal 92**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 9.1.5**

**Motivation:** Licensees are not only athletes. Precisions.

9.1.5 *Application and Issue*

c) It is strictly forbidden for a ~~fencer~~ licensee to possess more than one international licence.

d) When a fencer is visiting another country, or even if he lives in a country other than his own, he must apply for his licence to the member Federation ~~of his own country, that is to say, to the member Federation~~ of the country whose nationality he possesses.

e) The ~~FIE head office with the agreement of the~~ FIE ~~Bureau~~ Executive Committee may ~~of its own initiative~~ grant an international licence to a fencer who has the nationality of a country where there is neither a national federation which is a member of the FIE nor an Olympic Committee affiliated to the I.O.C., and to fencers who are legally stateless. The fencers will fence under the acronym FIE and under the FIE banner.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal, but has made a change in order to have a consistent wording.

9.1.5 *Application and Issue*

c) It is strictly forbidden for a ~~fencer~~ licensee to possess more than one international licence.

d) When a ~~fencer~~ person is visiting another country, or even if he lives in a country other than his own, he must apply for his licence to the member Federation ~~of his own country, that is to say, to the member Federation~~ of the country whose nationality he possesses.

e) The ~~FIE head office with the agreement of the~~ FIE ~~Bureau~~ Executive Committee may ~~of its own initiative~~ grant an international licence to a fencer who has the nationality of a country where there is neither a national federation which is a member of the FIE nor an Olympic Committee affiliated to the I.O.C., and to fencers who are legally stateless. The fencers will fence under the acronym FIE and under the FIE banner.

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**Proposal 93**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 9.2.2**

**Motivation:** Clarification of the process and of responsibilities.

**9.2 NATIONALITY OF FENCERS**

9.2.2 For official competitions of the FIE, fencers must be strictly of the nationality of the country which they are representing:

a) The fencer who enjoys multiple nationalities must choose which country he wishes to represent. The fact that s/he has fenced for one of the countries in an official FIE competition or Regional Games implies that s/he has made a choice. If s/he wishes to represent another country of which s/he enjoys nationality, s/he must so advise the Head office of the FIE. ~~and s~~ S/he may only represent this other country after an interval of

three years from the earlier of the last time s/he represented the other country or the date s/he advised the Head Office of the FIE regarding such change, during which s/he can no longer represent any country.

The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.

b) A fencer who has already represented a country and acquires a new nationality (from being stateless, through naturalisation or through other means other than marriage) can only represent his/her new country after an interval of three years from his/her last participation in a competition for his/her previous country. Applications for a change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than ~~90 days~~ six months after the acquisition of the new nationality. ~~The delay of three (3) years can be reduced by the FIE Head Office with the consent of the fencer's previous country.~~

The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.

c) The fencer who acquires a new nationality as a result of marriage may fence for that new country immediately, without waiting three years and without the approval of the national federation of the prior country s/he represented. ~~Such application to fence for the new country must be filed with the FIE Head Office no later than the 1st of August immediately following the date of receiving the new nationality through the marriage. However, If the person receives the new nationality through marriage in July, they shall have thirty (30) days from the date of such receipt to file their application.~~ Applications for a change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than six months after the acquisition of the new nationality

~~d) The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned, and only for just reasons, may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission has made some changes in order to ensure the consistency of Article 9.2.2 with Section 1.4 of the Administrative Rules, stating that "As delegated by the Executive Committee, all "regular" change of nationality requests are decided by the Legal Commission's Executive Committee representative and by the CEO. The above mentioned persons are also designated to verify that the appropriate grounds for requesting the cancellation or reduction of the 3-year period were indeed presented. The Legal Commission's Executive Committee representative reports periodically on the changes examined".

**9.2 NATIONALITY OF FENCERS**

9.2.2 For official competitions of the FIE, fencers must be strictly of the nationality of the country which they are representing:

a) The fencer who enjoys multiple nationalities must choose which country he wishes to represent. The fact that s/he has fenced for one of the countries in an official FIE competition or Regional Games implies that s/he has made a choice. If s/he wishes to represent another country of which s/he enjoys nationality, s/he must so advise the Head office of the FIE. ~~and s~~ S/he may only represent this other country after an interval of three years from the earlier of the last time s/he represented the other country or the date s/he advised the Head Office of the FIE regarding such change, during which s/he can no longer represent any country.

The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years. The Executive Committee may also delegate all or part of this authority to a person or group of persons, as it deems appropriate, through the Administrative Rules.

b) A fencer who has already represented a country and acquires a new nationality (from being stateless, through naturalisation or through other means other than marriage) can only represent his/her new country after an interval of three years from his/her last participation in a competition for his/her previous country. Applications for a change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than ~~90 days~~ six months after the acquisition of the new nationality. ~~The delay of three (3) years can be reduced by the FIE Head Office with the consent of the fencer's previous country.~~

The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years. The Executive Committee may also delegate all or part of this authority to a person or group of persons, as it deems appropriate, through the Administrative Rules.

c) The fencer who acquires a new nationality as a result of marriage may fence for that new country immediately, without waiting three years and without the approval of the national federation of the prior country s/he represented. ~~Such application to fence for the new country must be filed with the FIE Head Office no later than the 1st of August immediately following the date of receiving the new nationality through the marriage. However, If the person receives the new nationality through marriage in July, they shall have thirty (30) days from the date of such receipt to file their application.~~ Applications for such a change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than six months after the acquisition of the new nationality.

~~d) The Executive Committee of the FIE, with the agreement of the member federations concerned, and only for just reasons, may reduce or dispense with the interval of three years.~~

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**Proposal 94**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 9.2.3**

**Motivation:** Clarification of the full process.

9.2.3 For the FIE competitions, fencers who are legally stateless or hold an official ~~a~~ refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which they live, may compete as long as they are registered by the member federation of the country in which they live, provided it is approved by ~~with approval of the FIE~~ ~~Bureau~~ Executive Committee. Fencers holding refugee status shall be treated as nationals of the country of such member federation for purposes of these Statutes and FIE rules unless the Member Federation refuses to allow them to compete on behalf of such Federation. ~~in which case they shall be treated as stateless, but shall not be permitted to represent any particular country in competitions, either individually or as part of a team, unless authorized to do so by the FIE Bureau.~~

In case the Member Federation refuses to allow a fencer, who is legally stateless or hold an official refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which s/he lives, to compete on behalf of such Federation, the Executive Committee:

- may decide to grant a licence to the fencer for the current season to compete under the acronym "FIE" and under the banner of the FIE;
- a specific list of FIE competitions in which the fencer wishes to compete must be submitted to the Executive Committee.
- these competitions cannot include team events, qualifying events for the Olympic Games or zonal championships.

The practical process for a request of modification of nationality is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, "Licences and nationality" chapter.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Committee has made changes for better understanding.

9.2.3 For the FIE competitions, fencers who are legally stateless or hold an official ~~a~~ refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which they live, may compete as long as they are registered by the member federation of the country in which they live, provided it is approved by ~~with approval of the FIE~~ ~~Bureau~~ Executive Committee. Fencers holding refugee status shall be treated as nationals of the country of such member federation for purposes of these Statutes and FIE rules unless the Member Federation refuses to allow them to compete on behalf of such Federation. ~~in which case they shall be treated as stateless, but shall not be permitted to represent any particular country in competitions, either individually or as part of a team, unless authorized to do so by the FIE Bureau.~~

In case ~~the~~ a Member Federation refuses to allow a fencer, who is legally stateless or holds an official refugee status issued by the governmental authorities in the country in which s/he lives, to compete on behalf of such Federation, the Executive Committee~~:~~

may decide to grant a licence to the fencer for the current season to compete under the acronym "FIE" and under the banner of the FIE, under the following conditions:

~~;~~

- a specific list of FIE competitions in which the fencer wishes to compete must be submitted to the Executive Committee~~.~~;
- these competitions cannot include team events, qualifying events for the Olympic Games or zonal championships.

Fencers who have been granted such a licence for the current season to compete under the acronym "FIE" and the banner of "FIE" shall be eligible to participate only in FIE competitions included on the above-mentioned list approved by the Executive Committee.

The practical process for a request of modification of nationality is stated in the FIE Administrative Rules, "Licences and nationality" chapter.

**Proposal 95**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 10.1.1**

**Motivation:** The cadet category is an official category of the FIE. The cadet zonal championships are organised by the same host federation, jointly with the FIE Junior Zonal Championships, at the same period and place and with the same appointed officials and referees. The Cadet Zonal Championships should therefore be included in the list below.

**10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE**

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and cadet ~~z~~Zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 96**

**Presented by: Fencing Federation of Uzbekistan**

**Article: 10.1.1**

**Motivation:** The Regional Games are referenced from a sport point of view in several articles of FIE Organisation Rules and FIE Administrative Rules: o.13, o.44, o.54, o.96, 9.1.2.

This proposal aims to introduce in the FIE Statutes a formal recognition of fencing competitions held within Regional Games. It will ensure strengthening cooperation with Continental Olympic Committees and the International Olympic Committee, and will reinforce the consistency, universality, and value of major continental competitions. Proposal supported most of the countries of Asia, as China, Japan, UAE, Mongolia, India, Malaysia.

**10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE**

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior and Junior ~~z~~Zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Continental multi-sport Games (Asian Games, African Games, European Games and Pan American Games), organised under the authority of continental associations of National Olympic Committees and under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee are recognised by the International Fencing Federation.

Fencing competitions held within Continental multi-sport Games are official competitions of the FIE.

These Games are organised once every four years, generally in the period preceding the Olympic Games. In the year in which Continental multi-sport Games are held, the fencing competitions within such Games may replace the respective Continental Championships.
If a Continental multi-sport Games would be cancelled for any reason, the corresponding Continental Championship shall be organised in accordance with the FIE Rules**.**

Application: 2028

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal but has suggested additions to the wording.

**10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE**

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior and Junior zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Continental multi-sport Games (Asian Games, African Games, European Games and Pan American Games), organised under the authority of continental associations of National Olympic Committees and under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee are recognised by the International Fencing Federation.

Fencing competitions held within Continental multi-sport Games are official competitions of the FIE.

These Games are organised once every four years, generally in the period preceding the Olympic Games. In the year in which Continental multi-sport Games are held, the fencing competitions within such Games may replace the respective Continental Championships provided that they are organized in accordance with the FIE Rules.
In such a scenario if a Continental multi-sport Games would be cancelled for any reason, the corresponding Continental Championship shall be organised in accordance with the FIE Rules**.**

Application: 2028

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**Proposal 97**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 10.2.2**

**Motivation:** Those who are participating in World Championships are the fencers. They should not be held responsible and prevented from participation if their national federation is not up to date with its financial obligations with the FIE.

~~10.2.2 *Participation in a World Championship*~~

~~A member federation which is not up to date with its financial obligations towards the FIE at midday the day before the opening of a Cadet, Junior, Senior or Veteran World Championship may not participate in this World Championship, unless exception is justified and granted by the Executive Committee.~~

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission is against the proposal. The amendment may create a precedent whereby federations no longer feel compelled to fulfill their financial responsibilities, believing that athletes' participation is guaranteed regardless of their situation. This could lead to a cycle of financial negligence by federations and, in the long term, weaken the FIE.

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**Proposal 98**

**Presented by: National Fencing Federation of Peru**

**Article: 10.6**

**Motivation:** Today, in many countries, children begin fencing at the age of 6-7, and in some countries even at the age of 5.
Unfortunately, the FIE does not have a single official competition for children under 13. Therefore, to participate in official FIE competitions, children must wait many years (6-7 years, even longer), which is why many children leave fencing.

To popularize fencing worldwide, motivate children to take up fencing, and increase the number of people practicing fencing worldwide, it is proposed to establish a World Championship for children's fencers in two categories: the first category (9-10 years old), and the second category (11-12 years old). Individual competitions only.

If this proposal is approved, the National Fencing Federation of Peru is ready to organize the first World Children's Fencing Championships in Lima, Peru.

**CHAPTER X - COMPETITIONS**

**10.6 CHILDREN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

10.6.1 General Rules

The Children's World Championships are to be held annually under the auspices of the FIE, comprising individual competitions at boy's and girl's foil, epee and sabre.

The Children's World Championships are held every year, during the last two weeks of August, under the auspices of the FIE.

10.6.2

The Rules of Children's World Championships are defined in specific sections of the FIE Rules.

Rules related to all categories are applicable when not otherwise specified in those sections.

**Formula**

The World Children's Fencing Championships will be held in two categories: the first category is for 9–10-year olds, and the second category is for 11–12-year-olds. Individual competitions only.

**In the first category** (9-10 years old), competitions will be held in groups of up to 4 hits, with a time limit of 2 minutes.

In the direct elimination round, fights will be held up to 8 hits, in two periods of 2 minutes with one-minute break between.

**In the second category** (11-12 years old), competitions will be held in groups of up to 5 hits, with a time limit of 3 minutes.

In the direct elimination round, fights will be held up to 10 hits, in two periods of 3 minutes with one-minute break between.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission is against the proposal. Introducing a new age category may create safeguarding concerns and could potentially increase the FIE's exposure to liability arising from the participation of fencers of such a young age.

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**Proposal 99**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: Chapter XII and Appendix 1 - Ethics Code**

**Motivation**: It is necessary to have the correct word in the title of the article ("Ethics" refers to the moral principles, while "ethical" describes actions or decisions that align with those principles)

Change Ethical Code to Ethics Code: contents, title of Chapter XII and appendix 1.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 100**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: Chapter XII, 5 – Ethics Committee and Article 7.2.1 a)**

**Motivation:** Clarification that the Ethics Committee is entitled to lodge a complaint under the Disciplinary Code.

**5.- ETHICS COMMITTEE:**

1. The Ethics Committee is formed in order that the FIE Family shall ensure the observance of the principles and rules of the Olympic Charter and of this Code. The CEO, or her/his representative shall be the liaison with the Ethics Committee and shall provide the administrative support for the Committee.
2. The Ethics Committee shall be responsible for defining and updating a framework of ethical principles based on the principles and values enshrined in the Olympic Charter and the Code of Ethics of the IOC. Likewise, it will issue reports, advice or recommendations to the members of the FIE Family on all matters relating to the ethical permissiveness of any planned action in accordance with the provisions of this Code.
3. Any alleged violation of this Code or an ~~Ethical~~ Ethics Committee advice shall be grounds for the Ethics Committee itself to lodge ~~lodging~~ a complaint under the Disciplinary Code. The Ethics Committee will be entitled to report violations of this Code (Acting as prosecutor/Fiscal Ministry before the Disciplinary Tribunal).
4. Each year, the Ethics Committee will issue a report to the Executive Committee of the FIE relating to the application of this code, noting any advice given, and to any violation of the Ethic Code. The Ethics Committee may set out the goals and recommendations for the implementation of the present Code.
5. The Ethics Committee will issue its advice, reports, resolutions or recommendations, by a majority of its neutral members, based on the queries and enquiries presented, after having heard all parties concerned. The communication of the advice of potential conflicts of interest, may be delegated to one or more of its members.

7.2.1 *The complaint*

a) Author of the complaint

Any person, individual or entity, whether or not they are a licensee of the FIE, if they are personally the victim of one of the offences enumerated above in Article 7.1.7 can present a complaint, in one of the FIE working languages, before the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Ethics Committee can present a complaint before the disciplinary Tribunal for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code or an Ethics Committee advice.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the first part of the proposal with some changes in order to be in line with the new Article 7.2.1. The second part of the proposal concerns Article 7.2.1, which has been fully redrafted (see proposal No. 89.) and the Legal Commission favours the wording set forth in Proposal No. 89.

**5.- ETHICS COMMITTEE:**

1. The Ethics Committee is formed in order that the FIE Family shall ensure the observance of the principles and rules of the Olympic Charter and of this Code. The CEO, or her/his representative shall be the liaison with the Ethics Committee and shall provide the administrative support for the Committee.
2. The Ethics Committee shall be responsible for defining and updating a framework of ethical principles based on the principles and values enshrined in the Olympic Charter and the Code of Ethics of the IOC. Likewise, it will issue reports, advice or recommendations to the members of the FIE Family on all matters relating to the ethical permissiveness of any planned action in accordance with the provisions of this Code.
3. Any alleged violation of this Code ~~or an Ethical Ethics Committee advice~~ shall be grounds for the Ethics Committee itself to lodge ~~lodging~~ a complaint under the Disciplinary Code. ~~The Ethics Committee will be entitled to report violations of this Code (Acting as prosecutor/Fiscal Ministry before the Disciplinary Tribunal).~~
4. Each year, the Ethics Committee will issue a report to the Executive Committee of the FIE relating to the application of this code, noting any advice given, and ~~to~~ any violation of the Ethic Code established by the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Ethics Committee may set out the goals and recommendations for the implementation of the present Code.
5. The Ethics Committee will issue its advice, reports, resolutions or recommendations, by a majority of its neutral members, based on the queries and enquiries presented, after having heard all parties concerned. The communication of the advice of potential conflicts of interest, may be delegated to one or more of its members.

~~7.2.1 *The complaint*~~

~~a) Author of the complaint~~

~~Any person, individual or entity, whether or not they are a licensee of the FIE, if they are personally the victim of one of the offences enumerated above in Article 7.1.7 can present a complaint, in one of the FIE working languages, before the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Ethics Committee can present a complaint before the disciplinary Tribunal for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code or an Ethics Committee advice.~~

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**Proposal 101**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: Chapter XII - New Appendix 2 - FIE ETHICS CODE: CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM**

**Motivation:** As an elected or appointed member, commitment is the cornerstone of the trust placed in our institutions by the fencing community. Disclosure is a mutual protection measure: it safeguards the integrity of decision-making processes while shielding individuals from any challenge to their integrity. This form ensures that the best interests of international fencing always prevail over any personal or national considerations.

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**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM**

**International Fencing Federation**

## 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- **Full Name**: _____
- **National Federation (NF)**: _____
- **Current Position**: ☐ Referee | ☐ Directoire Technique | ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member
- **Candidate to a position as**: ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member

## 2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

*Please check and provide details for any situation that may create an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest:*

- ☐ **Professional & Financial Interests**: any construal relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing/selling fencing equipment or related services.
- ☐ **Coaching & Training Ties**: Current or recent (past 24 months) coaching of athletes competing on the international circuit.
- ☐ **Club & Academy Affiliations**: Official roles or membership in fencing clubs, associations or other entities.
- ☐ **Family & Close Relationships**: Relatives who are active fencers, national coaches, referees or competition officials.
- *Details for any of the above*:
  _____

## 3. SPECIFIC IMPARTIALITY & RECUSAL COMMITMENT

I agree to **recuse myself** from any decision-making process, voting, or officiating duties involving:

1. **National Federation Ties**: Any matter, competition bid, disciplinary case, or funding specifically related to my own **National Federation**.
2. **Athletes & Teams**: Any bout involving fencers or national teams from my country of affiliation and from my other country or countries of nationality.
3. **Club & Academy Affiliations**: Fencers belonging to a club or a national team with which I am or have been affiliated (last 24 months) or in which I have or have had (last 24 months) professional and/or financial interests.
4. **Personal Relationships**: Individuals with whom I have a family or personal tie.

## 4. CONFIDENTIALITY & NON-DISCLOSURE (NDA)

- I undertake to maintain the **strictest confidentiality** regarding all non-public information, technical data, and internal deliberations accessed during my mandate.

- I shall not use such information for personal gain or for the benefit of any third party (including my National Federation or Club).
- This obligation remains in effect even after the termination of my functions.

**5. DATA PROTECTION & RETENTION (GDPR)**

- **Purpose**: Ensuring the integrity and neutrality of international fencing.
- **Retention**: Duration of mandate plus **5 years** of archival storage.

**6. DECLARATION**

I certify that this information is true and complete. I will update it immediately if any new conflict or potential conflict of interest arises during my mandate.

**Date**: ____ / ____ / 202_ | **Signature**: _____

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**7.Failure to disclose**

Failure to disclose a conflict of interest, or providing incomplete or misleading information, may constitute a breach of the FIE's ethical and governance standards.

Depending on the severity of the breach, consequences may include sanctions which shall be applied in accordance with the applicable statutes, disciplinary code, and ethics regulations of the FIE.

**8. INTERNAL USE ONLY (VETTING PANEL)**

- **Review Date**: ____ / ____ / 202_
- **Assessment**:
  - ☐ No conflict identified.
  - ☐ Potential conflict identified – Mitigation plan required.
  - ☐ Material conflict identified – Recusal mandatory for specific matters.
- **Comments / Mitigation Measures**:

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**Reviewer Signature**: _____

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal, but has made some changes. We propose Section 5 to be deleted, as this information shall be part of the FIE Privacy Notice.

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**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM**

**International Fencing Federation**

## 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- **Full Name**: _____
- **National Federation (NF)**: _____
- **Current Position**: ☐ Referee | ☐ Directoire Technique | ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member or equivalent ☐ Other
- **Candidate to a position as**: ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member

## 2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

*Please check and provide details for any situation that may create an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest* by using the tik boxes below*:*

- ☐ **Professional & Financial Interests**: any ~~construal~~ contractual relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing, selling fencing equipment or related services, and companies that provide goods or services to, or otherwise do business with, the FIE.
- ☐ **Coaching & Training Ties**: Current or recent (past 24 months) coaching of athletes competing on the international circuit.
- ☐ **Club & Academy Affiliations**: Official roles or membership in fencing clubs, associations or other entities .
- ☐ **Family & Close Relationships**: Relatives who are active fencers, national coaches, referees or competition officials.
- ☐ **Other situation:**_____

- *Details for any of the above*:
  _____

## 3. SPECIFIC IMPARTIALITY & RECUSAL COMMITMENT

I agree to **recuse myself** from any decision-making process, voting, or officiating duties involving:

5. **National Federation Ties**: Any matter, competition bid, disciplinary case, or funding specifically related to my own **National Federation**.
6. **Athletes & Teams**: Any bout involving fencers or national teams from my country of affiliation and from my other country or countries of nationality.
7. **Club & Academy Affiliations**: Fencers belonging to a club or a national team with which I am or have been affiliated (last 24 months) or in which I have or have had (last 24 months) professional and/or financial interests.
8. **Personal Relationships**: Individuals with whom I have a family or personal tie.

9. **Professional & Financial Interests:** Any matter relating to any company with which I have a relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing, selling fencing equipment or related services, and companies that provide goods or services to, or otherwise do business with, the FIE.

**4. CONFIDENTIALITY & NON-DISCLOSURE (NDA)**

- I undertake to maintain the **strictest confidentiality** regarding all non-public information, technical data, and internal deliberations accessed during my mandate.
- I shall not use such information for personal gain or for the benefit of any third party (including my National Federation or Club).
- This obligation remains in effect even after the termination of my functions.

~~**5. DATA PROTECTION & RETENTION (GDPR)**~~

- ~~**Purpose**: Ensuring the integrity and neutrality of international fencing.~~
- ~~**Retention**: Duration of mandate plus **5 years** of archival storage.~~

~~**6. DECLARATION**~~

~~I certify that this information is true and complete. I will update it immediately if any new conflict or potential conflict of interest arises during my mandate.~~

~~**Date**: ____ / ____ / 202X | **Signature**: _____~~

---

5~~7~~.**Failure to disclose**

I acknowledge that ~~f~~failure to disclose a conflict of interest, or providing incomplete or misleading information, may constitute a breach of the FIE's ethical and governance standards.

Depending on the severity of the breach, consequences may include sanctions which shall be applied in accordance with the ~~applicable statutes~~, ~~d~~Disciplinary ~~c~~Code~~, and ethics regulations~~ of the FIE.

**6. DECLARATION**

I certify that this information is true and complete. I will update it immediately if any new conflict or potential conflict of interest arises during my mandate.

**Date**: ____ / ____ / 202X | **Signature**: _____

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7~~8~~. **INTERNAL USE ONLY (VETTING PANEL)**

- **Review Date**: ____ / ____ / 202X
- **Assessment**:
  - ☐ No conflict identified.

- ☐ Potential conflict identified – Mitigation plan required.
- ☐ Material conflict identified – Recusal mandatory for specific matters.

- **Comments / Mitigation Measures**:

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**Reviewer Signature**: _____

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**Proposal 102**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: 1.1.d, 4.5.1, 4.5.11, 6.3.2, 10.1.1 (x2), 10.1.2, 10.4.1, FIE Safeguarding officer (Paragraph 4), CONTENTS 10.3**

**Motivation:** for consistency throughout the Statutes

To replace the words “Open World Championships” by “Senior World Championships” in the articles/sections above.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 103**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: 10.2.1, 1.2.6, 3.5.4, History, Management 1965-1968 - §10**

**Motivation:** for consistency throughout the Statutes

To replace the word “F.I.E” by “FIE” in articles/sections above.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission agrees with the proposal.

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**Proposal 77**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 5.6.4**

**Motivation:** In line with the current and common practice on payments.

5.6.4 The President may also give a power of attorney to the CEO for transactions below an upper limit which the Executive Committee President and the Treasurer will establish.

**Opinion of the Legal Commission:** The Legal Commission is against of the proposal and suggest maintaining the original wording for reasons of good governance. Leaving the decision on the upper limit with the Executive Committee appears to be a better protection for the FIE.

5.6.4 The President may also give a power of attorney to the CEO for transactions below an upper limit which the Executive Committee President and the Treasurer will establish.

# Report / Rapport / Informe

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Commissions & Councils | | | Legal Commission | | |
| | | | | | |
| Participants / Attendees / Participantes: | | | Absences (indiquer si annoncée):<br>Absent (indicate if announced):<br>Ausencias (indicar si anunciada): | | |
| Mohamed ABOULEILA, member | | | 1.Rinat AKHMEDSHIN, member | | |
| Yann, BERNARD, member | | | - | | |
| Edina CZEGLEDY, president | | | - | | |
| Gerli DOS SANTOS, member | | | | | |
| Anca Ioana Ileana IONESCU, member | | | | | |
| Peter JACOBS, member | | | | | |
| Ekaterina KONDRATEVA, member | | | | | |
| Loreen Marie MARCIL, member | | | | | |
| Maurizio RANDAZZO, member | | | | | |
| Murat ATALI, COMEX representative | | | | | |
| Décisions / decisions / decisiones | & | Mesures / actions / medidas | | | |
| 1. Formulating opinion on the proposals to the Statutes (Congress 2026) | | a. | The Legal Commission has discussed the proposals to the Statutes (Congress 2026) No. 1-76. | | |
| 2. As the two days allocated for the discussions were not sufficient to cover all the proposals, the Legal Commission decided to continue its work by email and, if necessary, through online meetings. | | b. | The Legal Commisison has decided to discuss the remaining proposals from No. 77 to No. 103 in three instalments.<br>It was agreed to discuss the Disciplinary Code (No. 89) separately, due to the complexity of the matter.<br>The Legal Commission has established 15 July 2026 as the internal deadline for completing the first round of discussions on the remaining proposals, and 1 August 2026 for finalizing its opinions on all proposals. | | |

# REPORT OF THE MEDICAL COMMISSION

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 54**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** This provision was necessary for the 2024 Congress, when new requirements were introduced and made obligatory. It should be removed for 2028 and onwards. To clarify that the licence is professional and not related to the FIE licencing.

A candidate for the Medical Commission must have completed the educational requirements for being an MD, DO or DC and hold a valid and active professional licence, or be qualified and be practicing as a physiotherapist ~~or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates~~.

**Opinion of the Medical Commission: The Medical Commission supports Proposal 54.**

In particular, the Commission agrees with the elimination of the rule that allows a candidate to be elected to the Medical Commission on the basis of at least two previous terms on the Commission.

The Commission also supports the clarification that the license referred to in Article 4.4.2 must be a valid and active professional license, thereby avoiding any possible confusion with an FIE license.

**Accordingly, the Medical Commission supports the specific amendments contained in Proposal 54.**

However, since Proposal 54 concerns Article 4.4.2 and therefore the professional eligibility requirements for membership of the Medical Commission, I believe it is important to draw attention to a separate issue concerning the same Article which remains unresolved.

At its meeting in Istanbul on 4–5 July 2025, the Medical Commission specifically examined the professional eligibility criteria contained in Article 4.4.2 and proposed a different formulation.

The Commission proposed that the existing enumeration of professional categories be replaced by the following requirement:

*“A candidate for the Medical Commission must have completed the educational requirements for being an MD or hold an equivalent medical degree that confers eligibility for independent clinical medical practice and is recognized as such in their country of practice, with a valid and active medical license.”*

The purpose of the amendment proposed in Istanbul was to establish a clear and internationally applicable criterion based on possession of a medical degree conferring eligibility for **independent**

**clinical medical practice**, rather than on the enumeration of individual professional titles whose meaning, scope of practice and corresponding legal responsibilities may differ between jurisdictions.

The rationale underlying that position remains fully applicable. Members of the Medical Commission may be required to assess injuries and illnesses, determine fitness to compete, address return-to-play issues and make other clinical decisions carrying medical and medico-legal responsibility. The Commission therefore considered that membership should be restricted to professionals possessing the medical training and legal authority necessary to exercise independent clinical judgement and assume the corresponding professional responsibility.

This position does not question the important contribution that physiotherapists, chiropractors or other healthcare professionals may make to athlete care or to the work of the FIE. Their expertise can be extremely valuable within multidisciplinary teams, working groups, research projects, educational programmes and advisory activities. However, the Commission considered that such collaboration should be distinguished from eligibility for membership of the Medical Commission itself**.**

The Medical Commission's support for Proposal 54 is limited to the amendments currently proposed by the Executive Committee and does not alter the Commission's previously adopted position on the professional eligibility requirements for membership.

Accordingly, the position adopted by the Medical Commission at its Istanbul meeting should remain the Commission's established position on professional eligibility and should be taken into account in any future revision of Article 4.4.2.

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**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.4**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.4.4 If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~3~~ 4 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the ~~3~~ 4 candidates of the under-represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~7~~ 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.

If no candidate of one of the genders has been nominated, the 10 candidates ~~of different nationalities~~ of the other gender with the greatest number of votes are elected.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates of such gender put forward who have received at least one vote and the remainder of the Commission will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

If there are fewer than 10 candidates for a Commission then the Commission will consist of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission then the members of the Commission whose term had just ended shall hold over for the following year until new candidates can be presented and an election is held for that Commission at the following Congress.

**Opinion of the Medical Commission: The Medical Commission supports the general objective of Proposal 63 to improve gender balance within FIE Commissions.**

During the consultation, however, some members expressed reservations about establishing rigid numerical requirements. The prevailing view was that gender balance should be actively promoted, but that appointments must continue to be based primarily on the competence, experience and specific professional qualifications required for each Commission.

This is particularly important for specialized Commissions, such as the Medical Commission, where members must possess the professional qualifications necessary to perform their functions and assume the corresponding responsibilities.

The Commission therefore considers that **gender balance and professional competence should be pursued together**. Gender representation should be actively encouraged among suitably qualified candidates, while preserving sufficient flexibility to ensure that the specific professional requirements of each Commission are always met.

Accordingly, **the Medical Commission supports Proposal 63 in principle**, provided that gender-balance requirements do not override the professional qualifications and expertise necessary for membership of each Commission.

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**Proposal 98**

**Presented by: National Fencing Federation of Peru**

**Article: 10.6**

**Motivation:** Today, in many countries, children begin fencing at the age of 6-7, and in some countries even at the age of 5.
Unfortunately, the FIE does not have a single official competition for children under 13. Therefore, to participate in official FIE competitions, children must wait many years (6-7 years, even longer), which is why many children leave fencing.

To popularize fencing worldwide, motivate children to take up fencing, and increase the number of people practicing fencing worldwide, it is proposed to establish a World Championship for children's fencers in two categories: the first category (9-10 years old), and the second category (11-12 years old). Individual competitions only.

If this proposal is approved, the National Fencing Federation of Peru is ready to organize the first World Children's Fencing Championships in Lima, Peru.

**CHAPTER X - COMPETITIONS**

**10.6 CHILDREN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

10.6.1 General Rules

The Children’s World Championships are to be held annually under the auspices of the FIE, comprising individual competitions at boy’s and girl’s foil, epee and sabre.

The Children’s World Championships are held every year, during the last two weeks of August, under the auspices of the FIE.

10.6.2

The Rules of Children’s World Championships are defined in specific sections of the FIE Rules.

Rules related to all categories are applicable when not otherwise specified in those sections.

**Formula**

The World Children's Fencing Championships will be held in two categories: the first category is for 9–10-year olds, and the second category is for 11–12-year-olds. Individual competitions only.

**In the first category** (9-10 years old), competitions will be held in groups of up to 4 hits, with a time limit of 2 minutes.

In the direct elimination round, fights will be held up to 8 hits, in two periods of 2 minutes with one-minute break between.

**In the second category** (11-12 years old), competitions will be held in groups of up to 5 hits, with a time limit of 3 minutes.

In the direct elimination round, fights will be held up to 10 hits, in two periods of 3 minutes with one-minute break between.

**Opinion of the Medical Commission:** The **prevailing view emerging from the consultation is not to support Proposal 98 in its current form**.

A number of members expressed significant concerns regarding the introduction of an FIE World Championship for children in the proposed age categories of **9–10 and 11–12 years**, particularly in relation to early specialization, competitive pressure, overtraining, safeguarding and the potential physical and psychological consequences of introducing World Championship-level competition at such an early stage of development.

The Commission recognizes, however, the importance of encouraging participation in fencing from an early age and acknowledges that international initiatives for younger fencers may potentially provide developmental opportunities, particularly in countries and regions where fencing is still developing.

Different perspectives were expressed during the consultation as to how these considerations should be balanced.

Some members considered that the developmental objectives of the proposal could be better pursued through **developmental and educational international events**, rather than through the immediate creation of a formal Children's World Championship.

Another view expressed was that the concept should not necessarily be rejected in principle, but that no commitment to organize such a Championship should be made before a comprehensive feasibility and risk assessment has been undertaken. Such an assessment should involve the Medical Commission and the other competent FIE bodies and should address, at a minimum, **eligibility, competition format, equipment, medical requirements, safeguarding, insurance, financial implications and organizational standards**.

An appropriate preparation period and, preferably, a **pilot event** were also suggested before any definitive decision is taken.

One member expressed **conditional support** for the proposal, particularly from the perspective of developing fencing regions, provided that any such event was substantially oriented towards development, education, health and safeguarding rather than high-level competitive performance.

Dr Hosam El-Sherbiny did not express a definitive vote either in favor of or against Proposal 98 but contributed comparative information relevant to the discussion. In particular, he drew attention to International Federations which organize World Championships for younger age categories and to the age-category structure used by USA Fencing.

He also noted the very substantial participation in children's age-group events at the USA Fencing Summer Nationals, where participation may, in terms of the number of athletes, exceed that of an entire World Championship. On this basis, he considered that these experiences demonstrate the potential relevance of further discussion regarding international competition opportunities for younger fencers, rather than supporting an a priori exclusion of such possibilities.

The Commission therefore considers that the question deserves further analysis, but that the health, welfare and safeguarding of children must remain the primary consideration in determining whether, and under what conditions, any FIE international event for these age groups could be organized.

Taking all the views expressed together, the prevailing position emerging from the consultation can therefore be summarized as:

**NO IN ITS CURRENT FORM, while remaining open to further consideration of international competition opportunities for younger fencers, including alternative developmental models and/or a future proposal following a comprehensive medical, safeguarding, organizational and feasibility assessment.**

# FIE Medical Commission Meeting

**Sofia, Bulgaria | 27-28 June 2026**

*Meeting Minutes*

| | |
|---|---|
| **Location** | Business Center, Metropolitan Hotel |
| **Date** | 27 June 2026 |
| **Start Time** | 11:30 AM |

## Attendance

### Medical Commission

**Present**

- Antonio Fiore, President
- Jeno Kamuti, Member
- Lisa Huzel, Member
- Victor Hugo Carpio, Member
- Anastasia Klochkova, Member
- Hosam El-Sherbiny, Member

**Apologies for Absence**

- Sabrina Halaimia - Absent due to maternity leave and family commitments.
- Lazar Miceta - Absent due to prior professional commitments.
- Jameleddine Ferjani - Absent due to prior professional commitments.
- Davood Reza Shafaat - Absent due to travel restrictions resulting from the regional conflict.

### Quorum

Six of the ten members of the FIE Medical Commission were present. The quorum was therefore achieved, and the meeting was duly constituted.

### FIE Executive Committee

The following Executive Committee representatives attended:

- Tamas Henriette - FIE Vice-President and Executive Committee Representative to the Medical Commission
- Abdelmoneim El Husseiny - FIE Interim President
- Gulnora Saidova - Secretary General

The FIE Interim President and the Secretary General attended part of the Medical Commission meeting, including the joint session with the Women and Veterans Councils.

## Opening of the Meeting

The meeting was opened by Antonio Fiore, President of the FIE Medical Commission, who welcomed the participants and thanked them for their attendance. He outlined the objectives of the meeting and reviewed the agenda, which was subsequently approved by the Commission.

Hosam El-Sherbiny was designated to draft the meeting minutes and circulate them to the President and all members of the Medical Commission for review and feedback.

# Agenda Item 1

## Strategic Plan 2025-2028 and KPI Monitoring

Presenter: Hosam El-Sherbiny

### Matters Presented

- Implementation status of the Strategic Plan 2025-2028.
- Key Performance Indicator (KPI) monitoring and achievements.
- Progress on the FISS digital platform and injury surveillance.
- Educational activities, research initiatives, and competition reporting.
- Strategic priorities for the next implementation cycle.

Appendix 1: Strategic Plan 2025-2028 Presentation.

Appendix 2: Summary table of educational activities, certification programmes, and training delivered by Medical Commission members.

### Discussion

Lisa Huzel requested clarification regarding the denominator used to calculate the reported achievements.

Hosam El-Sherbiny explained that the benchmark was based on a target attendance of fifteen participants per educational activity, as agreed during the 2025 Senior World Championships in Tbilisi.

Hosam El-Sherbiny proposed that registration for all FIE competitions should eventually be linked to the successful completion of designated online medical education courses in order to promote education and improve compliance.

The FIE Interim President, Abdelmoneim El Husseiny, suggested that, rather than making the training mandatory, an incentive could be offered by waiving the competition registration fee for participants who successfully complete the educational programme.

### Decisions

#### Motion MC-2026-01: Collaborative Partnerships

**Proposed by:** Hosam El-Sherbiny

**Seconded by:** Anastasia Klochkova

**Motion:** To approve three collaborative partnerships: Hong Kong Sports Medicine Institute as a Performance Centre for Elite Fencers; Herford University for research collaboration; and the International Academy in Budapest for education and certification programmes.

**Voting Outcome:** Approved unanimously (6-0).

It was agreed that the Memoranda of Understanding requiring FIE approval would be submitted to the Legal Commission for review before presentation to the Executive Committee (COMEX), with the intention of signing the agreements during the 2026 Senior World Championships in Hong Kong.

#### Motion MC-2026-02: Mental Health Pilot and Working Group

**Proposed by:** Lisa Huzel

**Seconded by:** Hosam El-Sherbiny

**Motion:** To establish a Mental Health Working Group to support the proposed 2027 Mental Health Pilot Programme and related Medical Commission activities.

**Voting Outcome:** Approved unanimously (6-0).

Hosam El-Sherbiny proposed launching a Mental Health Pilot Programme in 2027.

The proposed composition of the Working Group includes:

- Medical Commission representative
- Refereeing Commission representative

- Coaches' Council representative
- Clinical Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Additional experts as required

# Agenda Item 2

## Anti-Doping and Athlete Protection

Presenter: Victor Carpio Quintana

### Matters Presented

- WADA Code updates and Prohibited List developments.
- Regional educational webinars and future initiatives.
- Medical safeguarding responsibilities during FIE competitions.
- Athlete protection priorities and operational procedures.

Appendix 3: WADA Code Updates.

# Agenda Item 3

## FIE Medical Handbook Revision and Operational Compliance

Presenter: Antonio Fiore

### Topics Discussed

- Status of the revised FIE Medical Handbook.
- Practical implementation challenges reported by organisers and national federations.
- Standardisation of the Event Medical Plan (EMP).
- Emergency response procedures, including the "Two-Minute Response Principle."
- Venue inspection procedures.
- Medical reporting standards.
- Compliance observations from recent European Championships.
- Medical training requirements for Local Organising Committees.
- National team medical staff licensing framework.

### Decision and Follow-up

I It was agreed that the revised FIE Medical Handbook requires further review and will be discussed during a future dedicated meeting.

The FIE Interim President, Abdelmoneim El Husseiny, requested clarification regarding the anticipated timeline for submitting the final version of the revised Medical Handbook to the Executive Committee (COMEX) for review and approval. Antonio Fiore advised that the final version is expected to be submitted on or around **mid-September 2026**.

# Agenda Item 4

## IOC Policy on the Protection of the Female Category - LA28 Implementation

Presenter: Lisa Huzel

Appendix 4: FIE Medical Commission Discussion Outline - IOC Policy on the Protection of the Female Category: LA28 Implementation.

### Key Discussion Points

The Commission reviewed the IOC policy and its anticipated implementation for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games (LA28). The following key considerations were discussed:

- Testing should apply only to female athletes who qualify for the Youth Olympic Games and the Olympic Games, beginning with LA28.
- Accredited genetic laboratories should be identified and approved for conducting the required testing.
- Test results should be interpreted and validated by appropriately qualified medical specialists.
- Educational programmes should be developed for athletes, national federations, continental confederations, coaches, medical personnel, and other relevant stakeholders.
- Cases requiring further evaluation should be managed through a multidisciplinary team, including, as appropriate, a physician, endocrinologist, psychologist, genetic specialist, and other relevant experts.

### Decision

### Motion MC-2026-03: Establishment of the Joint Women and Gender Working Group

**Proposed by:** Antonio Fiore

**Seconded by:** Lisa Huzel, Hosam El-Sherbiny

**Motion:** To establish a Joint Women and Gender Working Group reporting directly to the FIE Executive Committee (COMEX) to support implementation of the IOC Policy on the Protection of the Female Category, develop technical guidance, coordinate education programmes, and provide recommendations on medical and scientific matters related to athlete eligibility.

**Voting Outcome:** Approved unanimously (6-0).

### Approved Membership

The Working Group shall include representatives from:

- FIE Medical Commission
- FIE Legal Commission
- FIE Athletes' Commission
- FIE Women's Council
- Additional medical, scientific, and legal experts as required

# Agenda Item 5

## Medical Incident Report - Junior and Cadet World Championships, Rio de Janeiro 2026

## Proposal for Amendment of the FIE Statutes

## Proposal for Amendment of Technical Rule t.45

Presenter: Lazar Miceta (Online)

### Attachments

- Appendix 5: Medical Incident Report - 2026 Junior and Cadet World Championships, Rio de Janeiro.
- Appendix 6: Proposal for Amendment of the FIE Statutes.
- Appendix 7: Proposal for Amendment of Technical Rule t.45.
- Appendix 8: Medical Delegate Report - 2026 Junior and Cadet World Championships.

### Discussion

Lazar Miceta presented the Medical Incident Report arising from the 2026 Junior and Cadet World Championships in Rio de Janeiro, together with proposed amendments to the FIE Statutes and Technical Rule t.45.

The Commission reviewed the incident report, supporting documentation, and video footage. A detailed discussion followed regarding medical assessment procedures, athlete safety, the responsibilities of medical delegates, and the practical implications of the proposed amendments.

Following deliberation, the Commission concluded that the proposals did not provide sufficient justification to warrant amendments to either the FIE Statutes or Technical Rule t.45 at this stage.

### Motion MC-2026-04: Proposal for Amendment of the FIE Statutes

**Proposed by:** Antonio Fiore

**Seconded by:** Hosam El-Sherbiny

**Motion:** To reject the proposed amendment to the FIE Statutes submitted following the medical incident at the 2026 Junior and Cadet World Championships.

**Voting Outcome:** Approved unanimously (6-0).

### Motion MC-2026-05: Proposal for Amendment of Technical Rule t.45

**Proposed by:** Antonio Fiore

**Seconded by:** Hosam El-Sherbiny

**Motion:** To reject the proposed amendment to Technical Rule t.45.

**Voting Outcome:** Approved unanimously (6-0).

### Follow-up Action

It was agreed that the medical incident and the application of Technical Rule t.45 would be discussed further during a joint meeting with the FIE Rules Commission to consider operational guidance and any future recommendations.

# Agenda Item 6

## Joint Meeting with the Administrative Team of the 2026 Hong Kong Sports Medicine Conference

### Participants

- Gulnora Saidova, FIE Secretary General
- Elena Murdaca, FIE Projects and Development Director
- Members of the FIE Medical Commission

### Discussion and Decisions

The Commission held a joint meeting with the administrative team regarding planning and logistical arrangements for the 2026 Hong Kong Sports Medicine Conference. The following decisions were confirmed:

- The conference room capacity was approved for 80 persons.
- The room shall be equipped with a large-format LED display screen suitable for presentations and conference sessions.

- Appropriate technical facilities shall be available to support remote participation.
- Hosam El-Sherbiny will prepare and submit the proposed conference room layout, workflow, and operational plan for review.

### Attachments

- Appendix 9: Proposed Conference Programme.
- Appendix 10: Standardized Abstract Review Matrix.
- Appendix 11: Proposed Stage, Seating, and Session Management Plan.

# Agenda Item 7

## Joint Meeting with the FIE Women and Fencing Council

### Participants

- Georgina Usher, Member, FIE Women and Fencing Council
- Members of the FIE Medical Commission

### Topics Discussed

- Strategic planning for collaborative initiatives between the Medical Commission and the Women and Fencing Council.
- Medical and scientific considerations relating to female athlete eligibility testing.
- Funding opportunities and resource requirements for future projects.

Hosam El-Sherbiny proposed initiating a pilot programme to test the top 64 ranked female FIE athletes during the 2027 season in preparation for qualification for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games (LA28). The proposal will be discussed with the designated Working Group.

### Decisions

The Women and Gender Testing Working Group was approved by the Medical Commission under Motion MC-2026-03.

### Motion MC-2026-06: Establishment of the Joint Pregnancy Research and Protective Equipment Working Group

**Proposed by:** Hosam El-Sherbiny

**Seconded by:** Victor Hugo Carpio

**Motion:** To establish a joint multidisciplinary working group between the FIE Medical Commission and the FIE Women and Fencing Council to conduct research on pregnancy among elite female fencers, develop evidence-based recommendations for athlete support during pregnancy, and design and evaluate protective abdominal equipment suitable for pregnant athletes participating in fencing.

**Voting Outcome:** Approved unanimously (6-0).

### Lead Responsibilities

- Pregnancy Research: Victor Hugo Carpio and Georgina Usher.
- Protective Equipment Development: Victor Hugo Carpio in collaboration with the SEMI Commission.

### Follow-up Action

The newly established working group will develop a project plan, timeline, and resource requirements for presentation to the Medical Commission and subsequent submission to COMEX for consideration.

# Agenda Item 8

## Joint Meeting with the Rules Commission

### Participants

- Members of the FIE Rules Commission
- Members of the FIE Medical Commission

### Topics Discussed

- Collaboration regarding IOC female eligibility testing.
- Medical Incident Report - 2026 Junior and Cadet World Championships, Rio de Janeiro.
- Proposal for Amendment of Technical Rule t.45.

Collaboration regarding IOC female eligibility testing was welcomed by the Rules Commission.

Discussion focused on clarifying the wording relating to Rule t.45, including:

- "Unjustified refusal" to undergo assessment, resulting in a Red Card.
- Circumstances in which an athlete is unable to be assessed, for which the Rules Commission will review and finalise the appropriate wording. The Medical Commission will be updated accordingly.

# Agenda Item 9

## Joint Meeting with the Veterans Council

### Participants

- Members of the FIE Veterans Council
- Members of the FIE Medical Commission
- Abdelmoneim El Husseiny, FIE Interim President
- H.H. Eng. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Al Qasimi, President of the Asian Fencing Confederation

### Topics Discussed

- Appointment of an additional Medical Delegate for the upcoming Veterans World Championships in Tbilisi, 7-13 October 2026.
- Review and possible modification of the final podium protocol following a series of concussion-related incidents reported by FIE Medical Delegates Hosam El-Sherbiny, Lazar Miceta, and Lisa Huzel during Senior, Junior, and Veterans World Championships.
- Review of the IOC survey sent to the President of the Medical Commission.
- Antonio Fiore's proposal to conduct a survey among national federations regarding any medical certifications or checks to be obtained before participating in competitions. Need to arrange a future meeting to discuss the Medical Certificate of Aptitude.
- Participation in the Tbilisi 2026 Round Table on equipment donation.

### Decisions and Follow-up Actions

A joint proposal prepared by the Medical Commission and the Veterans Council regarding the appointment of a third Medical Delegate and the final podium incident shall be submitted as soon as possible to the FIE CEO for inclusion on the agenda of the COMEX meeting scheduled in Tbilisi on 21 July 2026, as requested by the FIE Interim President.

Hosam El-Sherbiny will cooperate with the relevant stakeholders and participate in the Tbilisi Round Table.

# Agenda Item 10

## Sustainability and Medical Operations

Speaker: Hosam El-Sherbiny

### Topics Discussed

• Finalization and dissemination of Sustainability Strategy – medical/healthcare section
• Sustainability Implementation and Action Plan – medical contribution
• Sustainable medical practices during FIE events:

- digital reporting
- operational measures
- reduction of unnecessary materials and waste
- Integration into medical guidelines and event management procedures
- Pilot project updates from selected FIE competitions
- Group discussion: practical implementation proposals from MedCom

Lisa Huzel requested the inclusion of the IOC Consensus Statement on Heat, which recommends monitoring environmental conditions before and during events and implementing appropriate mitigation measures, including cooling strategies, shade, ice, hydration, and, where necessary, event schedule modifications under high-risk environmental conditions. A table outlining the recommended environmental risk ranges has also been included. These additions have been incorporated into Appendix 8: Medical Guidance for Environmental Risks at FIE Events on Page 51.

Following review by the Environmental Working Group, the documents will be submitted to the Executive Committee (COMEX), the relevant Commissions, the Council, and external consultants for review, evaluation, and feedback.

Appendix #12: FIE Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Action Plan

# Agenda Item 11

## Nominations and Appointments

### Motion MC-2026-07: Nominations and Appointments

**Motion:** To approve the nominations and appointments listed below.

**Voting Outcome:** Approved unanimously (6-0).

| Position | Appointee | Voting Outcome |
|---|---|---|
| Continental Medical Contact | Hosam El-Sherbiny | Approved unanimously |
| Women and Gender Testing Working Group | Antonio Fiore | Approved unanimously |
| Women and Gender Testing Working Group | Lisa Huzel | Approved unanimously |
| Mental Health Working Group | Anastasia Klochkova | Approved unanimously |
| Women Pregnancy Research Working Group | Victor Hugo Carpio | Approved unanimously |

## Adjournment

### Motion MC-2026-08: Adjournment of the Meeting

**Proposed by:** Antonio Fiore

**Seconded by:** Hosam El-Sherbiny

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting on 28 June 2026 at 5:30 PM.

**Voting Outcome:** Approved unanimously (6-0).

Antonio Fiore, MD
FIE, President of the Medical Commission



# FIE Medical Commission Strategic Plan 2025 - 2028

Hosam El-Sherbiny, MD
FIE Medical Commission

Athlete safety, medical standards, digital transformation, research, and education for global fencing.

Medical standards | Injury prevention | Clean sport | Education | Research

# Executive overview

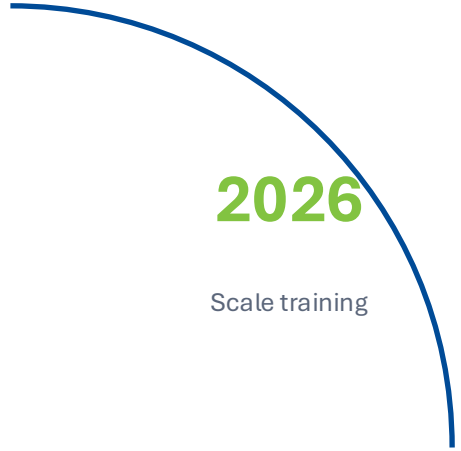
A four-year roadmap to make fencing safer, more consistent, and more evidence-based worldwide.

## Mission

**Deliver world-class medical and welfare support for fencing athletes worldwide.**

## Vision

**A safe, innovative, athlete-centered fencing community with equitable medical resources.**



**2025**

Launch and standards

**2026**

Scale training

**2027**

Research outputs

**2028**

Maturity and integration

**Strategic theme: set standards, build capability, collect data, and use insights to improve athlete care.**

# Strategic priorities

Seven workstreams translate the vision into coordinated action across FIE, zones, national federations, LOCs, and partners.

**A** **Medical standards & services**

Guidelines, certification, event feedback systems

**B** **Injury prevention & well-being**

FISS, warm-up and recovery protocols, mental health pilot

**C** **Anti-doping compliance & education**

WADA-aligned modules integrated into competitions

**D** **Research & innovation**

Academic collaboration, wearables pilots, symposiums

**E** **Confederation medical commissions**

Create and strengthen zonal medical structures

**F** **Digital transformation & education**

Medical portal, multilingual curricula, database links

**G** **Emergency readiness**

Updated event and crisis response protocols

# Key challenges to address

Success depends on adoption, consistency, resources, and cross-border alignment.

## Adoption

Medical teams and LOCs may have uneven readiness for new systems.

## Language & localization

Education and reporting tools must work across regions.

## Funding & staffing

IT, translation, training, and event delivery require sustainable support.

## Data quality

Injury surveillance must be complete, timely, and privacy-conscious.

## Integration

Portal, ADAMS, and national databases require clear governance.

**Risk response: phase delivery, localize content, establish clear RACI, and secure external academic and sponsorship partnerships.**

# Portfolio of projects

A balanced program of operational standards, digital tools, education, research, and event readiness.

### FISS Injury Surveillance

Standardized injury reporting and analytics

### FIE Medical Portal

Role-specific guidance, modules, forms, and dashboards

### Event Medical Certification

Train and certify medical teams and LOC medical readiness

### Mental Health Pilot

Pilot support resources before broader rollout

### Clean Sport Education

Mandatory anti-doping education and competition integration

### Medical Research Network

Partner with universities and publish research outputs

### Emergency Response Toolkit

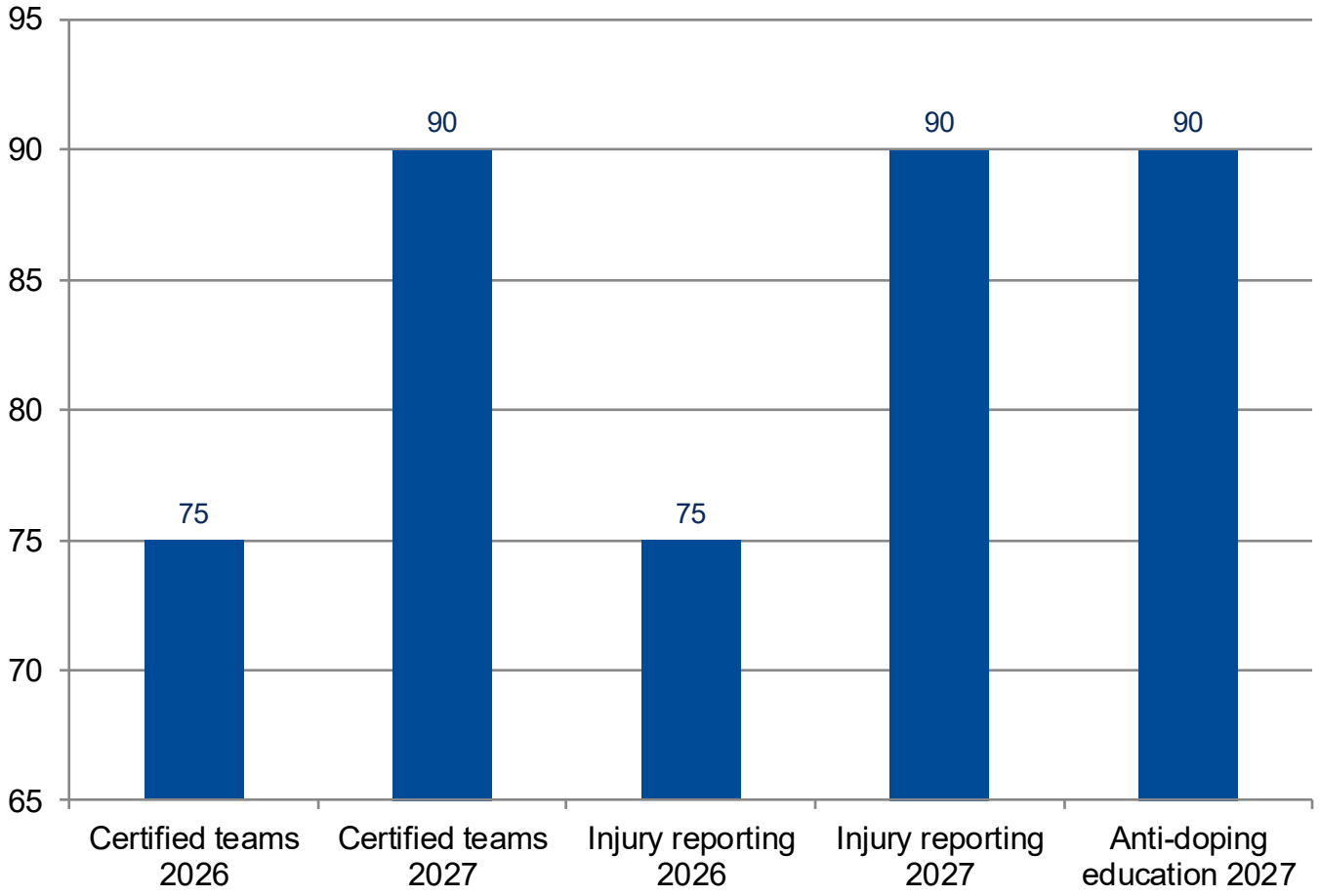
Updated checklists, templates, and pandemic-ready protocols

### Confederation Commissions

Strengthen regional medical governance and collaboration

# Key Performance Indicators

Core outcome targets for standards, reporting, education, digital reach, and research outputs.




**90%** Certified medical teams at events by 2027

**90%** Injury reporting compliance by 2027

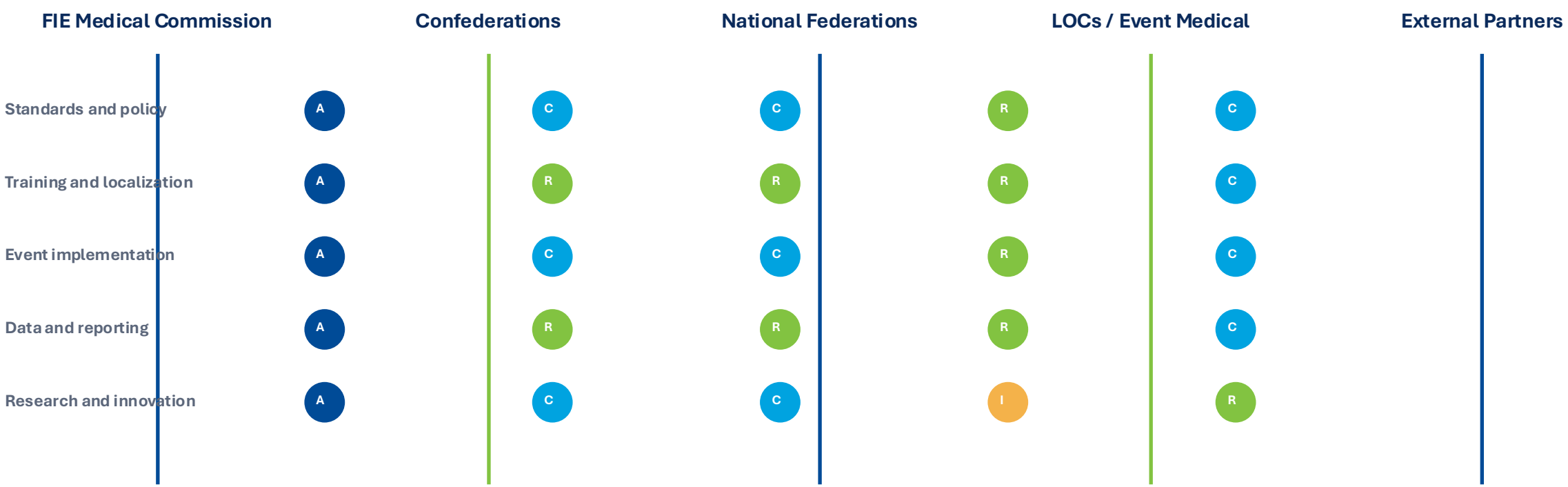
**90%** Anti-doping education completion by 2027

**4** Annual implementation reviews through 2028

**3+** Research outputs or proceedings by 2028

# Governance and partnerships

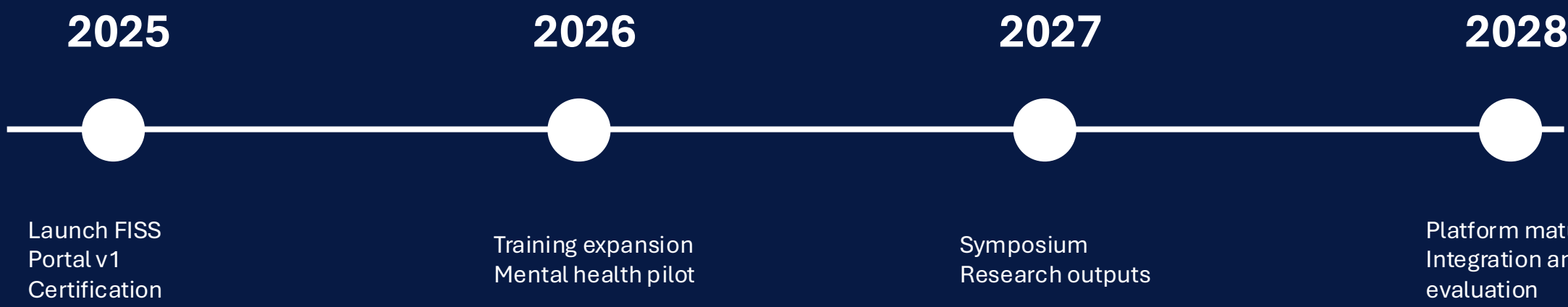
Roles must be explicit enough to enable delivery, accountability, and escalation.




**RACI legend: A = accountable, R = responsible, C = consulted, I = informed.**

# Implementation timeline

From launch in 2025 to mature, integrated delivery by 2028.



# Resource plan and risk controls

Budget and capability planning should match the phasing of the portfolio.

## IT development

Portal, dashboards, integration, security

## Training and certification

Content, learning management, faculty, assessment

## Translation services

Multilingual modules and localized templates

## Events and symposiums

Annual knowledge exchange and dissemination

## Research support

Data governance, analysis, publications

## Mitigation principles

Phased rollouts and pilots before scale.
Localized content and regional champions.
External partnerships for expertise and sponsorship.
Annual review cycle with KPI corrective actions.

# What success looks like in 2028

Trusted global medical standards at FIE events
Reliable injury data informing prevention and athlete support
Clean sport education embedded into competition pathways
A connected medical portal supporting multilingual learning
Research, innovation, and partnerships improving fencing health

## Immediate next steps

**Approve portfolio owners, confirm 2025 milestones, publish RACI, launch the first injury surveillance and portal work packages, and schedule the annual KPI review.**

| Education & Certification provided by Medical Commission members to healthcare providers and athletes | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Date | Type | Target | Topic | Description | Attendees |
| Mar-25 | Webinar | Athletes, Coaches, other Supporting Personnel | Anti-Doping | Online Anti-Doping Education Programmed (FIE and ITA Collaboration | 30 |
| Apr-25 | In-Person | Local medical Professional (Doctors, Therapist, Technician) | Fencing Injuries / Competition Management | injury patterns in fencing, immediate on-Piste assessment, safe intervention during bouts and coordination with competition officials. | 10 |
| Jun-25 | Webinar | Athletes, Coaches, other Supporting Personnel | Anti-Doping | Online Anti-Doping Education Programmed (FIE and ITA Collaboration | 35 |
| Jul-25 | In-Person | Local medical Professional (Doctors, Therapist, Technician) | Fencing Injuries / Competition Management | injury patterns in fencing, immediate on-Piste assessment, safe intervention during bouts and coordination with competition officials. | 15 |
| Jul-25 | In-Person | | Women's Coaches Seminar / Anti-Doping | Online Anti-Doping Education Programmed (FIE and ITA Collaboration | 25 |
| Jul-25 | In-Person | Federal and team doctors | FIE Medical Commission Role, Awareness, and Future plans | | 15 |
| Nov-25 | In-Person | Local medical Professional (Doctors, Therapist, Technician) | Fencing Injuries / Competition Management | injury patterns in fencing, immediate on-Piste assessment, safe intervention during bouts and coordination with competition officials. | 5 |
| Mar-26 | Webinar | Athletes, Coaches, other Supporting Personnel | Anti-Doping | Online Anti-Doping Education Programmed (FIE and ITA Collaboration | 21 |
| Apr-26 | In-Person | | Women's Coaches Seminar / Anti-Doping | | 20 |
| Apr-26 | In-Person | Local medical Professional (Doctors, Therapist, Technician) | Fencing Injuries / Competition Management | injury patterns in fencing, immediate on-Piste assessment, safe intervention during bouts and coordination with competition officials. | 15 |
| Jul-26 | Webinar | Athletes, Coaches, other Supporting Personnel | Anti-Doping | Online Anti-Doping Education Programmed (FIE and ITA Collaboration | 30 |
| Jul-26 | In-Person | Local medical Professional (Doctors, Therapist, Technician) | Fencing Injuries / Competition Management | injury patterns in fencing, immediate on-Piste assessment, safe intervention during bouts and coordination with competition officials. | 15 |
| **Total** | | | | | **236** |

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: FIE MEDICAL COMMISSION (SOFIA)**

**BLOCK 1: WADA CODE UPDATES AND PROHIBITED LIST DEVELOPMENTS (WADA CODE & FIE RULES)**

**I. Comprehensive Alignment and Effective Date**

- **Literal Transposition:** The new FIE Anti-Doping Rules (Version 1.0) are fully harmonized and aligned with the World Anti-Doping Code (WADA Code). They will officially come into force on **January 1, 2027**.
- **Institutional Governance:** The FIE retains ultimate responsibility for compliance before WADA, having delegated operational execution to the International Testing Agency (ITA). The delegation of testing operations to entities with potential conflicts of interest (such as National Federations) is strictly prohibited.
- **Legal Nature:** These are sports-specific rules intended to apply anti-doping controls in a globally harmonized manner, independent of national criminal or civil standards, and structured under the principles of proportionality and human rights.

**II. Scope of Application and Continental Jurisdiction**

- **Binding by Licensure:** These rules legally bind any person holding an FIE license or accreditation in activities authorized, sanctioned, or recognized by the FIE (including executives, commissions, councils, coaches, athletes, and referees).
- **Continental Events Covered:** As Continental Championships are events officially **authorized and recognized by the FIE**, all participating athletes, support personnel, and officials fall under the direct jurisdiction of these rules, which are not limited solely to World Championships.
- **International-Level Athletes:** The strict testing pool jurisdiction (whereabouts management and direct TUE processing) is restricted to fencers ranked in the **Top 64** of the 6 senior weapons at the start of each season, alongside those included in the Registered Testing Pool (RTP).

**III. Institutional Joint Liability (Article 12)**

- **Progressive Sanctions on Sports Organizations:** Article 12 empowers the FIE to directly sanction National or Continental Federations that demonstrate negligence in anti-doping compliance or enforcement within their sphere of competence:
    - **Up to 4 annual violations (Art. 12.2.1):** A fine of up to **CHF 10,000.00** and/or a ban on their members participating for up to 2

years. *(Note: Whereabouts failures are strictly excluded from this cumulative tally).*

- **8 or more annual violations (Art. 12.2.2):** Total suspension of the sports federation for a period of up to **4 years**.

- **Financial Indemnification (Art. 12.4):** Non-compliant organizations are legally obligated to reimburse the FIE for all operational costs arising from anti-doping rule violations by their affiliates (explicitly including laboratory fees, results management, and judicial hearing expenses).

**IV. Testing Authority and Results Management**

- **Operational Principle:** The general rule dictates that the entity initiating and directing sample collection retains jurisdiction over initial results management (FIE/ITA for all events on the FIE official calendar).

- **Treatment of National-Level Athletes:** If the FIE/ITA detects an Adverse Analytical Finding (AAF) from a national-level athlete within an International Event, the FIE/ITA **retains first-instance jurisdiction** and does not refer it to the NADO. However, the national-level athlete retains the right to file their secondary appeal before their respective national tribunal (NADO).

- **Multi-Sport Events (Olympic Games / Pan American Games):** Testing Authority on-site belongs to the IOC or the Major Event Organisation (MEO). Nonetheless, following immediate in-competition disqualification, the case file **must be returned to the FIE/ITA** for long-term results management and the final sanction of ineligibility.

**V. Prohibited List Mechanisms and Developments**

- **Transposition and Automatic Inclusion (Art. 4.1):** The Prohibited List, updated annually by WADA, enters into force for the FIE and its affiliates exactly three (3) months after its official publication on October 1st. This process is automatic and binding upon all licensed fencers.

- **Distinction of Substances of Abuse (Art. 4.2.3 & 10.2.3):** A flexible framework is maintained for substances frequently abused in society outside the sporting context. If the fencer establishes that the use occurred out-of-competition and was unrelated to athletic performance, the period of ineligibility shall be fixed at two (2) months (which may be further reduced to one month upon successful completion of an approved treatment program).

**VI. The Future Challenge: Gene and Cellular Doping**

- **Cutting-Edge Normative Grounding (Art. 6.2):** Anticipating modern biomedical transitions, the rules explicitly authorize the FIE and WADA-accredited laboratories to utilize samples and data for **DNA or genomic profiling**.
- **Longitudinal Detection Challenge (Art. 6.6 & 16):** Since the manipulation of gene expression does not leave conventional synthetic traces, the FIE's strategy will rely heavily on strengthening the Athlete Biological Passport (ABP) and long-term sample storage (up to **10 years**) for retrospective re-analysis.
- **Complexity in Therapeutic Use Exemptions (Art. 4.4):** Advances in legitimate gene editing therapies for severe injury recovery will demand a highly specialized framework from the ITA/FIE TUE Committee. This is crucial to scientifically differentiate legitimate therapeutic use from unfair competitive advantage, particularly for fencers requesting a TUE from their NADOs.

**BLOCK 2: REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL WEBINARS AND FUTURE INITIATIVES**

**VII. Educational Webinars and Enforcement of Education-Based Eligibility (Art. 17.2)**

- **Application of Mandatory Anti-Doping Education Certificates for Eligibility:** The FIE should exercise the regulatory authority already established under Article 17.2 to mandate completion of educational webinars and courses as a condition for registration and participation in specific international events. The regulations explicitly stipulate that failure to meet this requirement will result in the **ineligibility of the Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel** for the competition in question.
    - *Benefit for Fencing and the FIE:* Operationally activating this tool would drastically reduce positive tests caused by supplement contamination or inadvertent use due to lack of knowledge. This protects fencers' health and careers before they step onto the piste and shields organizations from legal liability. Furthermore, it severely mitigates the risk of National and Continental Federations suffering the strict institutional negligence sanctions outlined in Article 12, such as fines up to CHF 10,000.00, suspension of funding, or membership bans of up to four years.

**VIII. Delivery Standards and Safeguarding Protocols (Art. 17.1 FIE & Art. 18.4 WADA)**

- **Accreditation and Protection of Minors:** It is proposed that all official FIE seminars and webinars be delivered exclusively by trained educators

certified under the International Standard for Education (ISE), with contents strictly adapted under safeguarding protocols and legal requirements for youth and minor categories.

- *Benefit for Fencing and the FIE:* This ensures a safe, ethical, and uniform educational environment globally. It guarantees that a young fencer's first encounter with the anti-doping system is educational and protective rather than punitive, thereby elevating the FIE's ethical governance standards before the International Olympic Committee. The ongoing challenge is to deploy this program alongside National Federations, coordinating with Continental Confederations and regional NADOs/RADOs.

**IX. Global Synergy and Future Initiatives with WADA (Art. 18.12 FIE & Art. 19 WADA)**

- **Inter-Institutional Coordination and Research:** The FIE should actively participate in WADA Regional Symposios and Research Seminars, coordinating annual testing and educational plans with the ITA and National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADOs). Furthermore, the FIE should integrate itself into WADA Social Science Research forums (Art. 19 WADA) to evaluate behavioral risk factors, prevention metrics, and joint intelligence operations.
  - *Benefit for Fencing and the FIE:*
    1. It optimizes financial and operational resources; cross-referencing data in ADAMS allows the FIE to recognize previous national-level training completed by the fencer, avoiding oversaturating them with repetitive webinars.
    2. It grants the Medical Commission access to scientific data and funding regarding psychological and physiological pressures faced by modern fencers (e.g., anxiety, accelerated injury recovery), facilitating the design of highly effective preventive medical tools.
    3. Collaborating directly with WADA's Intelligence and Investigations department enables the development of tailored, effective tools to understand anti-doping vulnerability trends specific to fencing.

**BLOCK 3: MEDICAL SAFEGUARDING RESPONSIBILITIES DURING FIE COMPETITIONS**

**X. Standardization of Medical Operations and Emergency Plans (FIE Medical Handbook)**

- **Mandatory EMP Validation:** The FIE should require every Local Organizing Committee (LOC) to submit and validate a standardized **Event Medical Plan (EMP)** prior to competition, coupled with rigorous venue inspection procedures and uniform medical reporting templates.
    - *Benefit for Fencing:* This homogenizes emergency medical response infrastructure across the entire international circuit, safeguarding fencers' health regardless of the geographic location of the event.
- **Implementation of the "Two-Minute Response Principle":** The mandatory adoption of the **"Two-Minute Response Principle"** is proposed for track-side (piste) intervention during critical incidents, cardiorespiratory collapse, or severe trauma, requiring mandatory specialized training for the LOC medical staff prior to the tournament.
    - *Benefit for Fencing:* It drastically maximizes survival rates and mitigates neurological damage during critical medical emergencies in active bouts.
- **Licensing Framework for Team Medical Personnel:** Drawing from the operational lessons of the *Rio World Championships incident review*, the FIE should develop a formal **licensing and technical certification framework** for all medical personnel traveling with national delegations.
    - *Benefit for Fencing:* It optimizes track-side operational coordination between team physicians and local event medical officers, establishing clear boundaries of authority, and legally protecting the FIE against third-party liability claims.

**BLOCK 4: ATHLETE PROTECTION PRIORITIES AND OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES**

**XI. Athlete Protection Priorities and Safe Sport Operational Procedures**

- **Operational Integration of Safeguarding:** The FIE should implement a unified approach where medical and anti-doping operations actively cross-collaborate with Safe Sport protocols for the early detection of harassment, abuse, or institutional neglect, particularly within minor categories.
    - *Benefit for Fencing:* This raises the FIE's governance standards, ensuring that international tournaments operate as 100% safe and secure environments for athlete development.
- **Mandatory Disclosure of Reporting Channels:** It is proposed that every LOC be strictly required to integrate prominent signage and direct access links to the FIE confidential reporting channels and the contact details of the FIE Safeguarding Officer within event guides and venue installations.

  - *Benefit for Fencing:* It empowers athletes and the sporting community, ensuring an immediate, confidential, and operational response to misconduct within the event period.

- **Strict Enforcement of the Duty of Care (Art. 21.9, 20.8 & 21.10):** The FIE should stringently enforce disciplinary sanctions against Athlete Support Personnel who breach their professional medical duty of care or engage in offensive, abusive, or intimidating behavior toward doping control officers or medical officials.

  - *Benefit for Fencing:* It professionalizes the competitive environment, eradicates abusive practices that threaten the physical and mental well-being of fencers, and safeguards the authority and safety of the FIE international medical corps.

**XII. Technological Modernization and Redesign of the Safe Sport Reporting Interface**

- **Reporting Platform Optimization:** The FIE should technically overhaul its digital reporting interface based on user-centric design and dynamic conditional logic. If a user selects the anonymity option, the system **must automatically hide all personal identification fields** to guarantee genuine confidentiality and remove psychological barriers of distrust.

  - *Benefit for Fencing and the FIE:* Aligning the digital reporting tool with international safeguarding best practices mitigates the fear of retaliation and substantially increases early reporting rates.

- **Inclusion of Critical Vulnerability Indicators:** It is proposed to introduce mandatory high-priority classification fields, such as the reporter's role (athlete, doctor, witness, parent) and, critically, the age of the victim (identifying minors under 18).

  - *Benefit for Fencing and the FIE:* It allows the FIE Safeguarding Officer to immediately identify high-priority red flags, automatically triggering instant child protection protocols, thereby drastically reducing institutional liability and aligning the FIE with IOC and UNICEF governance standards.

- **Simplification and Softening of Regulatory Language:** The FIE should replace the current intimidating, punitive declaration of absolute veracity with a validation clause rooted in the user's good faith, alongside translating the portal into an accessible, multi-lingual interface.

  - *Benefit for Fencing and the FIE:* It prevents victims from abandoning the process due to trauma-induced memory blocks or distress,

ensuring the digital system is perceived as a reliable avenue for protection and justice rather than an aggressive legal barrier.

# FIE Medical Commission Discussion Outline
# IOC Policy on the Protection of the Female Category – LA28 Implementation

**Decisions Required at This Meeting**
The Commission should seek clarity on the following points:
1. Is the immediate objective LA28 compliance only, or development of a broader FIE policy?
2. Should a multidisciplinary implementation working group be established?
3. What implementation model should be recommended to the Executive Committee?
4. What timeline should be adopted for policy development and operational readiness?
5. What issues require escalation to the Executive Committee, Legal Commission, Safeguarding representatives, or Athlete Commission?

**1. Information Session**
1.1 IOC Policy Overview
• Summary of IOC Policy adopted March 2026
• Key eligibility requirements for LA28
• SRY screening framework
• CAIS and other exception pathways
• Scope of application (IOC events only)

1.2 IOC Workshop Report
• Report from Dr. Lazar Miceta
• Lessons learned from other International Federations
• Timeline presented by IOC
• Workshop recommendations regarding implementation

**2. Define the Commission's Objective**
Discussion question: What is the Medical Commission being asked to achieve?
A. Ensure compliance for LA28 only
B. Develop a longer-term FIE policy extending beyond LA28
C. Both, but as separate projects

Recommendation: Treat LA28 compliance as the immediate priority and any extension to FIE competitions as a separate future discussion.

**3. Governance and Responsibilities**
• Ownership and accountability
• Medical Commission
• Legal Commission
• Safeguarding representatives
• Athlete Commission
• Executive Committee

Discussion of creating a multidisciplinary implementation group including medical, legal, safeguarding, athlete representatives, FIE administration, and communications staff.

**4. Implementation Model for LA28**
Must SRY screening occur before participation in Olympic qualification events, or only before Olympic entry?
Options:
A. Screening required before qualification events
B. Screening required before Olympic entry only

C. Transitional approach for LA28 with earlier screening encouraged

Review qualification events beginning April 2027, IOC eligibility deadlines in 2028, and required milestones for FIE readiness.

**5. Testing and Laboratory Structure**
• Testing models
• Laboratory approval
• Cost considerations and subsidies

**6. Results Management**
• Eligibility determination
• Data storage and privacy
• Limiting retention to eligibility status where possible

**7. Positive Results, Exceptions and Appeals**
• Confirmatory testing
• Referral pathways
• Appeals process
• Qualification consequences and reallocation of places

**8. Safeguarding**
• Athlete support
• Confidentiality
• Special considerations for minors

**9. Communication Strategy**
• Communication to National Federations
• Communication to athletes
• Transparency, respect, clarity, and athlete-centred language

**10. Legal Review**
• Compatibility with IOC requirements
• Compatibility with FIE Statutes
• Data protection compliance
• Risk management and insurance considerations

**11. Deliverables**
1. Recommendation regarding LA28 implementation.
2. Recommendation regarding formation of a multidisciplinary working group.
3. Recommendation regarding testing model.
4. Recommendation regarding data management and safeguarding principles.
5. Identification of issues requiring Executive Committee decision.
6. Proposed implementation timeline.
7. Identification of topics requiring further study after LA28.

**12. Next Steps**
• Assign responsibilities
• Establish timeline
• Determine reporting structure
• Schedule follow-up discussions
• Prepare recommendations for Executive Committee review

**IOC Female Protection**

Preliminary timeline for the implementation of the IOC Policy on the Protection of the Female Category in preparation for LA28:

**September 2026 – Governance and mandate**

- Formal approval by the Executive Committee of the establishment and mandate of the multidisciplinary **Women and Gender Working Group**, as unanimously proposed by the Medical Commission in Sofia.
- Appointment of representatives from the Medical Commission, Legal Commission, Athletes' Commission and Women's Council, together with any additional medical, scientific, safeguarding and legal experts considered necessary.
- Confirmation that **LA28 compliance should be the immediate priority**, while any possible extension of the policy to other FIE competitions should be considered separately at a later stage.

**September–December 2026 – Policy development**

- Review of the IOC requirements and of the recommendations arising from the IOC workshop.
- Definition of the FIE implementation model for LA28, including the timing and scope of SRY screening.
- Identification of accredited laboratories and development of an appropriate testing network.
- Development of procedures for results management, confirmatory testing, medical review, exceptions and appeals.
- Legal review, including data protection, confidentiality and safeguarding requirements.
- Initial assessment of financial implications and possible support mechanisms for National Federations and athletes.

**January–March 2027 – Operational preparation**

- Finalisation and approval of the **FIE Policy on the Protection of the Female Category for LA28**.
- Establishment of secure procedures for recording and verifying eligibility status, with strict protection of medical and genetic information.
- Preparation of educational and communication materials for National Federations, athletes, coaches and medical personnel.

- Definition of referral pathways for cases requiring specialist assessment and multidisciplinary support.
- Pilot testing of the operational procedures, where feasible.

**By April 2027 – Operational readiness**

The FIE should aim to have its policy, procedures, laboratory network, eligibility-management system, medical referral pathways, safeguarding provisions and communication materials operational before the beginning of the LA28 Olympic qualification period.

**April 2027–March 2028 – Implementation during the qualification period**

- Progressive implementation of the screening programme for athletes seeking qualification for LA28.
- Coordination with National Federations and National Olympic Committees.
- Opportunities for screening at appropriate major FIE and Continental events.
- Continuous review of operational, medical, legal and safeguarding issues.
- Management of confirmatory testing, exceptions and appeals where required.

**March–June 2028 – Final verification**

- Verification that all potentially eligible female athletes have an established eligibility status before the relevant IOC deadlines.
- Resolution of outstanding cases in coordination with the IOC.
- Final confirmation of compliance before Olympic entries.

**Post-LA28**

- Comprehensive evaluation of the implementation process.
- Review of medical, legal, operational and safeguarding outcomes.
- Consideration of whether, and under what conditions, the policy should subsequently be extended to FIE competitions beyond the Olympic Games.

I believe that this phased approach would allow the FIE to proceed in a structured manner while preserving sufficient flexibility to adapt the operational details as further IOC guidance becomes available.

If it is necessary, I can prepare this timeline in a more formal format for inclusion in the documentation to be submitted to the Executive Committee by 1 September.

# PROPOSITIO FOR AMENDMENT OF THE FIE STATUTES

**FIE Statues**

Addition of the Article:

**9.1.11**

a) A National Federation can obtain a license for a medical professional who is a citizen of the country of such National Federation and whose license will specify the nationality of the medical professional and the professional category of the medical professional, being either a doctor or a physiotherapist.

b) A National Federation can obtain a license for a medical professional who is not a citizen of the country of that National Federation, but which National Federation is intending to send the medical professional to an official competition of the FIE as a member of the delegation of such National Federation, having first advised the National Federation of the country of which they are a citizen. The license for such a medical professional will specify:

i. the nationality of the medical professional's passport,

ii. the nationality of the country of the National Federation that the medical professional is representing at the competition, and

iii. the professional category of the medical professional, being either a doctor or a physiotherapist.

c) If a medical professional changes the country s/he is to represent at a future competition, the medical professional or the National Federation s/he will be representing shall inform the FIE of the change, having first advised the National Federation of the country for which they were previously licensed as a medical professional, and the FIE will note such change on the medical professional's license. The medical professional will not need to secure a new license.

d) A medical professional needs only one license, even though s/he may represent more than one country at official competitions of the FIE.

e) A medical professional needs a license as a medical professional, even though such a person has another license as a fencer, referee, official at the World Championships or Olympic Games or member of the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council or Ethics Committee.

f) To obtain a license, a medical professional must provide to the FIE Office a copy of the diploma or other official proof of completed professional education relevant to the category for which the license is requested, and a valid professional license to practise, issued by the competent national authority.

# MEDICAL INCIDENT REPORT

**Junior and Cadet World Championships, Rio de Janeiro 2026.**

**Date of incident:** 9 April 2026
**Event:** Junior Women's Team
**Match:** Italy vs China
**Stage:** Table of 8

## 1. Executive Summary

This report concerns an incident that occurred on 9 April 2026 during the Junior Women's Team competition, in which a delegate of the FIE Refereeing Commission overturned a medical decision taken on the piste by a delegate of the FIE Medical Commission. The incident raises serious concerns regarding decision-making authority, medical governance, liability, and the absence of a clearly defined procedure for handling situations in which a medical decision is challenged or reversed during competition.

The core issue is not limited to managing a single athlete on a single piste. Rather, this incident exposed a structural weakness in the current system: a medical decision, taken by the officially responsible medical authority and based on the athlete's presentation at that moment, was effectively set aside by a non-medical authority without a clearly established criteria, without a documented transfer of responsibility, and without a formal protection mechanism for liability of the Delegate of the FIE Medical Commission, the athlete, or the organisation.

This creates a potentially dangerous precedent. If medical decisions may be overridden by persons who do not hold medical responsibility and who may not possess the necessary clinical competence to assume that responsibility, then the chain of accountability becomes unclear. In such circumstances, the FIE Medical Delegate remains publicly perceived as responsible for medical decisions, while actual control over the outcome may lie elsewhere. This is an unacceptable and potentially dangerous governance gap.

The incident also highlighted additional operational concerns, including:

- Possible misuse or exaggeration of injury presentation to obtain time or tactical advantage.
- Unclear interpretation and application of the current medical time-out framework under Rule t.45.
- Pressure is placed on the FIE Medical Delegate, Referee, and LOC medical team by the athlete and the athlete's supporting personnel.
- The presence and active involvement of an individual presented as a physiotherapist who was later understood not to hold medical accreditation.
- Medical assistance apparently being provided outside the authorised medical process.

## 2. Key Questions Raised

1. When a decision is made by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission, can it be overturned by the Referee, regarding or regerdless of the change of the situation on the piste?
2. When an athlete's unauthorised request for medical time-out is in question, is it a matter of medical or refereeing decision?

3. Who has final authority when a medical decision is taken by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission? Is it a delegate of the FIE Medical Commission, the lead FIE Medical Delegate or someone else?
4. Does a FIE Referee Delegate (or other non-medical authority) possess the clinical competence required to overrule the practical consequence of a medical decision? If yes, on what basis and under what written procedure?
5. If a medical decision is overturned, who assumes responsibility for all medical and legal consequences from that point onward?
6. Does the current FIE framework adequately protect athletes, FIE Medical Delegates, Referees, and the FIE as an organisation in such circumstances?
7. Is there a formal procedure when a medical decision is disputed during competition?
8. Is there currently any required written record when such a reversal occurred in past?
9. Is the present system robust enough for future major events, including the Olympic Games?

## 3. Proposed recommendations

### 3.1 Protection of medical decision-making authority

A medical decision taken by the designated delegate of the FIE Medical Commission should not be capable of being overturned by any person who is not medically competent and formally authorised within a clearly defined written process.

### 3.2 If any override mechanism exists, it must be exceptional and tightly regulated

If the FIE considers that an internal control mechanism is necessary, then any reversal of a delegate of the FIE Medical Commission's decision should be possible only under a highly restricted procedure. One possible model would be:

- Only the DT President may initiate such a process.
- With the Safeguarding Officer informed or present where feasible.
- With mandatory written documentation of the original medical opinion, the revised final decision, the reasons for revision, and the identity of the person assuming responsibility.

### 3.3 Mandatory written transfer of responsibility

Whenever a medical decision is overturned or practically neutralised, responsibility for subsequent consequences must no longer remain with the FIE Medical Delegate. This transfer of responsibility must be explicit, written, and immediate.

### 3.4 Mandatory incident documentation

Any such incident should trigger compulsory documentation collected and presented by the person who took such authority. Detailed Incident Report should include:

- Detailed description of the incident,
- Original medical opinion,
- Final decision taken,
- Reasons for altering the original decision,
- Names and roles of all persons involved,
- Statement of responsibility,
- Second/Lead FIE Medical Delegate written opinion, where available.
- Safeguarding input
- Mandatory attachment of all video and photo evidence available.

### 3.5 Reporting deadlines

A formal report should be submitted within 24 hours, if the competition continues the following day, or within 3 days if the incident occurs on the final day of competition or after the competition has ended.

Recipients should include:

- President of the FIE Medical Commission,
- FIE Office / FIE CEO,
- FIE General Secretary,
- Representative of the Executive Committee in the FIE Medical Commission,
- President of the FIE Legal Commission,
- Any other authority designated by the FIE Office.

### 3.6 Mandatory debrief

A debriefing meeting should follow every such case in order to review the incident, assess whether the override was justified, identify procedural failures, and propose corrective action.

### 3.7 Reform of accreditation and licensing of team medical personnel

The incident supports the need for a formal FIE licensing and accreditation system for national team medical personnel. Only properly licensed, educated and accredited medical personnel should be granted access to the Field of Play. Clear sanctions should apply to those who breach professional standards or act outside the authorised scope.

A first draft of the proposal for a statutory provision of the FIE Statute regarding this issue is submitted to the President of the FIE Medical Commission for further processing in accordance with the applicable procedure. **(Appendix 1)**

### 3.8 Revision of the medical time-out rule (Technical Rules t.45)

The current rule on medical time-outs should be fundamentally revised to prevent, or at least clearly regulate, the use of medical breaks for tactical purposes; to eliminate the unclear and insufficiently controlled use of time-outs; to prevent abuse of medical breaks by athletes and their support personnel; and to reduce the risk of critical error arising from the confusion created by the current lack of clarity and common understanding of this rule. Without such clarification, similar incidents will continue to recur.

A first draft of the new version of Technical Rule t.45, together with the necessary amendments to Technical Rules t.168 and t.170 and Operational Rule o.99, was submitted to the President of the FIE Medical Commission for further processing in accordance with the applicable procedure. **(Appendix 2)**

## 4. Detailed Description of the Incident

During the Table of 8 match in the Junior Epee Women's Team competition between Italy and China, an incident occurred in the final bout of the match, with 15 seconds remaining on the clock and the score at 37:31 in favour of Italy.

At that moment, the Chinese athlete fell near the back line of the Italian team's end of the piste. The fall appeared to occur after she tripped and went down without direct contact with an opponent. Immediately afterwards, she remained near the piste in visible distress, crying loudly (with even screaming at some points), holding her right ankle, and demonstrating an apparent inability to move normally.

The response of the medical team was prompt. The delegate of the FIE Medical Commission approached the piste, followed by members of the LOC medical team. However, from the beginning, cooperation from the athlete was limited. She repeatedly stated that she was in pain, resisted examination, and initially would not allow effective assessment of the injured limb, reportedly due to pain. There were also early practical difficulties in obtaining even minimal cooperation, including removal of the mask and facilitation of a basic on-piste evaluation. A language barrier certainly has contributed to the difficulty of communication.

At that stage, there were no immediately obvious, unequivocal visible signs of a major fracture of the ankle or lower leg. However, such an injury could not be safely excluded without further examination, which was not possible at the time. Given the athlete's severe pain behaviour, poor cooperation, inability to be properly assessed on the piste, the late phase of a high-level match, and the need to avoid prolonged delay on live broadcast of competition, the FIE Medical Delegate formed the view that the safest and most appropriate course of action was replacement of the athlete and transfer from the field of play to the First Aid Station for full evaluation. The purpose of that decision was to protect the athlete, exclude a potentially significant injury, and minimise unnecessary time spent in unresolved uncertainty on the piste.

The referee was informed of this medical decision, and the referee then informed both coaches. A second (Lead) FIE Medical Delegate was called to confirm the situation and assist with the implementation of the decision, including transfer of the athlete to a wheelchair for removal from the field of play.

At that point, after both coaches had been informed, the Chinese coach crossed toward the side of the piste where the injured athlete was located, despite already having been warned by the referee to remain in the designated coaching area. Meanwhile, the substitute Chinese athlete had already come onto the piste and connected to the machine in preparation to replace the injured athlete.

At this stage, the sequence of events changed significantly. The Chinese coach approached the injured athlete, accompanied by an individual presented at the time (and during the whole competition) as a physiotherapist. It was later understood that this individual did not hold medical accreditation, but rather accreditation as a coach. In communication conducted in chinese, which the FIE delegates could not understand, the coach, the athlete, and the "physio" began exerting verbal pressure on the FIE Medical Delegate, the LOC medical staff, and the Referees, insisting that the athlete was able to continue and that no replacement should take place, dispite decision has already takane place, and replacement athelte preperade on the piste.

After that, the same athlete who only moments earlier had been crying loudly, resisting examination, and demonstrating severe pain in the right ankle stood up independently and began actively showing that she could walk, bear weight, and jump on the previously complained-of leg. She then moved toward the substitute athlete and attempted to disconnect the substitute from the apparatus so that she herself could resume the bout.

At that point, the clinical picture being demonstrated was no longer consistent with the earlier presentation that had led to the original medical decision – replacement. While a fall had occurred, the athlete's initial behaviour suggested that the severity of the condition had at minimum been overstated at the time of first medical attendance, and that the likelihood of a serious acute injury was now practically excluded. It should be noted that a proper medical examination was never finished due to the athlete's uncooperation.

In view of that development, the FIE Medical Delegate informed the Referee that:

1. The medical decision of the replacement of the injured athlete was already made, and arguably subsequent steps were further conducted (replacement athlete was hooked on the machine, athletes tried their weapons and were on the On-guard lines)

2. If the athlete were to be permitted to continue, and if the previously announced replacement were not to be enforced, then the situation should be treated as an unjustified request for medical intervention under the applicable rules.

This position was based on a medical assessment of the discrepancy between presentation and the athlete's subsequent demonstrated function.

The Referee went to seek a DT decision. However, no available DT member was present at that moment, and a member of the FIE Referee Delegate became involved on the piste. The delegate of the FIE Medical Commission explained the situation in detail. Further discussion followed between the Referees, the delegate of the FIE Refereeing Commission, and the FIE Medical Delegate.

During that exchange, the FIE Medical Delegate clearly stated that, first, the decision for the replacement was already made, and second, the situation, by his medical opinion, constituted an unjustified request for medical intervention (Technical Rules, t45.3), given the athlete's conduct and the discrepancy between the initial presentation and the subsequent demonstrated capacity.

Despite this, the delegate of the FIE Refereeing Commission concluded that, because the referee had seen the athlete fall, no sanction should be imposed. In practical effect, this overturned the consequence of the medical assessment and allowed the bout to continue with the original athlete, without sanction and without enforcement of the previously initiated replacement.

While this discussion was ongoing, the substitute Chinese athlete remained connected to the apparatus, and the originally injured athlete left toward the team box without apparent permission from either the Referee or the FIE Medical Delegate. There, she appeared to receive treatment despite the absence of authorisation.

Following the effective reversal of the medical outcome, the original Chinese athlete returned to the piste and replaced the substitute athlete at the apparatus. At that point, she had visible bandaging around the right ankle, applied externally over the sock using coloured wrapping material, itself raising a further issue of rule compliance. In the subsequent actions, she demonstrated full functional ability to run, move dynamically, and continue fencing without visible signs of relevant limitation of the allegedly injured ankle.

Video material from both the piste camera **(Appendix 3)** and a second wider-angle recording from the piste behind **(Appendix 4)** documents the incident and is presented for further clarification.

Additionally, the person previously presented as "physio" at some point verbally insults the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission, which was heard by others present. This was reported to the FIE Safeguard Officer by the delegate of the FIE Medical Commission, with a request for no further action against the stated person, due to it potentially being said unintentionally and in the heat of the moment, but as a reminder that medical personnel (FIE and LOC) are not exempt from pressure during their work on the FIE Competitions, witch sometimes crosses the line of sportsmenship behvaiour.

## 5. Main Concerns Raised by the Incident

### 5.1 Overruling of a medical decision by a non-medical authority

The most serious concern is that a medical decision taken by the designated medical authority was effectively overturned by a non-medical authority. This creates immediate uncertainty over who is entitled to make the final decision when the issue concerns an athlete's health, fitness to continue, or the consequences of a medically assessed situation.

### 5.2 Unclear chain of responsibility and liability

If the FIE Medical Delegate is publicly understood to be responsible for medical decision-making, but another official can, in practice, reverse the consequence of that medical decision, then the chain of

responsibility is broken. In that circumstance, it is neither fair nor legally sound to continue treating the FIE Medical Delegate as responsible for downstream consequences that may occur.

### 5.3 Ambiguity of current Rule t.45

The current medical time-out framework appears insufficiently clear in situations where:

- The initial presentation suggests significant injury, but assessment is hindered by non-cooperation, distress, or a language barrier.
- There wasn't a clear request from the athlete for a medical time-out, but the athlete let the Referee believe that she needed one.
- Does the decision of the FIE Medical Delegate prevail over the wishes of the athlete or the coach? Does the FIE Medical Delegate have the authority, based on their medical judgment, to impose a medical time-out, declare a medical withdrawal, or require replacement, even where the athlete does not agree?
- The athlete's condition then changes suddenly once replacement or withdrawal is to be imposed.
- The distinction between genuine injury, exaggerated presentation, tactical delay, and sanctionable conduct becomes blurred.

This ambiguity creates confusion not only for Referees but also for FIE Medical Delegates and can lead to an athlete being removed from the competition even where such removal is not necessary, and to an athlete with a potentially serious injury being allowed to continue the bout because of pressure and concealment of the facts. Although the current rule indicates that this is a matter for the FIE Medical Delegate's decision, this incident calls that principle into question.

### 5.4 Pressure on officials and medical staff

The conduct of national team personnel placed inappropriate pressure on the officials managing the situation. Such pressure is especially problematic when directed toward medical personnel attempting to make safety-based decisions under time pressure. Although this happens in some form relatively often and was not the most problematic thing in this incident, this incident is, however, used as an example of it.

### 5.5 Involvement of an unaccredited or improperly accredited team of medical personnel

The apparent involvement of an individual presented as a physiotherapist, later understood not to hold the relevant accreditation, is a separate governance issue. This exposes a broader weakness in credential control and access management to the Field of Play.

### 5.6 Unauthorised treatment and return to competition

The athlete appears to have left the piste area and received intervention in the team box before returning to the piste, without a clearly documented or authorised medical pathway. This raises questions both of procedure and of fairness.

## 6. Closing Position

This report is submitted in a constructive spirit, with the aim of protecting athletes, officials, FIE Medical Delegates, FIE Referee Delegates and the FIE as an organisation. The concern is not only what happened in this individual case, but what this case revealed about the current system.

Where a delegate of the FIE Medical Commission's decision can be set aside in practice without a clear procedure, without a written assumption of responsibility, and without defined limits on who may do so, the system exposes itself to avoidable medical, legal, and reputational risk.

For that reason, this issue should be reviewed urgently and resolved through a clear written policy well before the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.



14.04.2026.

Lazar Mičeta, MD

FIE Medical Commision

# PROPOSED CHANGE OF THE TECHNICAL RULE t.45

## t.45 Injuries and other medical conditions, Medical Time-Out, withdrawal, replacement of a competitor

### Definitions

**t.45.0**

1 **Medical Authority** is the Medical Delegate of the FIE Medical Commission, or in their absence, the LOC doctor

2 **Medical Time-Out** is an officially granted break in a bout, authorised by the Referee, used for assessment and providing medical care to a fencer

3 **Fencer's medical support person** – FIE Licensed and accredited medical professional, member of the fencer's national federation.

### Stopping the Bout for Medical Reasons

**t.45.1**

If an injury or other medical condition of a fencer occurs during the course of a bout, upon the request of the injured fencer, the Referee will stop the bout, grant Medical Time-Out and call for the Medical Authority. [1]

### Medical Time-Out

**t.45.2**

1 Medical Authority will provide on-site assessment and treatment of the fencer with the use of only a necessary amount of time. If the fencer's medical support person is present, her/she must be allowed to perform the assessment and treatment of the fencer with the use of only a necessary amount of time and under the supervision of the Medical Authority.

### Authority and Time

**t.45.3**

1 The Medical Time-Out starts upon arrival of the Medical Authority on the piste, lasting no longer than two (2) minutes.

2 The duration of the Medical Time-Out is controlled and enforced by the Referee, who is responsible for the accurate timekeeping and official recording. The remaining time of the Medical Time-Out must be clearly visible during the Medical Time-Out.

3 The actual duration of the treatment within the 2-minute limit is determined solely by the Medical Authority, even when the fencer's medical support person is present.

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[1] *Note: Medical Time-Out is granted at the moment of the request by fencer, even though no Medical Authority is not yet presnet on the piste. The conutdown of two (2) minutes starts, however, only when Medical Authority arrives on the piste.*

4 The Referee must ensure that the fencer completely prepares his clothing and equipment and resumes the bout immediately upon completion of medical care or expiration of the Medical Time-Out limit, whichever occurs first.

**Number of Medical Time-Outs**

**t.45.4**

1 **In individual Competitions**, a fencer has the right to a total number of four (4) Medical Time-Outs during one competition, allocated as follows: One (1) Medical Time-Out may be used during the pool phase,
One (1) Medical Time-Out may be used during the direct elimination phase, and
One (1) Medical Time-Out may be used during the finals.[2]

2 **In team competitions**, a team shall be entitled to a total of four (4) Medical Time-Outs for the entire competition. These time-outs are allocated to the team collectively, without any obligation as to how they must be distributed between athletes. However, no more than two (2) Medical Time-Outs may be used within one match.

**Documentation**

**t.45.5**

The Referee must document the Medical Time-Out in the official bout records. Medical Authority needs to make a detailed report in accordance with the Medical Handbook of Regulations.

**Misuse or Abuse**

**t.45.6**

1 Any attempt to misuse a Medical Time-Out for tactical delay or non-medical reasons may result in disciplinary action. If such behaviour is confirmed by the FIE Medical Delegate, it is a responsibility of the Referee to apply penalties in accordance with Articles t.158–162, t.166, and t.170.

2 Coaching in any form is not permitted during Medical Time-Out. Failure to adhere to this provision may result in disciplinary action, in accordance with FIE regulations. [3]

## *Withdrawal from the competition for Medical Reasons*

**t.45.7**

1 The authority to determine withdrawal of the fencer from the competition for Medical Reasons during the bout and outside of the bout lies solely with the Medical Authority, following a clinical evaluation. The evaluation must conclude that continuation in the competition poses a medical risk to the fencer's health or would significantly impair their physical ability to perform safely and effectively.

2 When a fencer is withdrawn from the competition for medical reasons during a bout, between bouts or before the start of the competition on the day of the competition, the Medical Authority must complete and sign the FIE Medical Withdrawal Form in full. This form must be submitted without delay to the Directoire Technique for inclusion in the official supervisor's report.

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[2] *Note: Finals include Semi-Final and Final Bout.*

[3] *Note: This needs to be more preciselly stetaed and conneted to the Techical Rules.*

3 When the Medical Authority submits a completed and signed FIE Medical Withdrawal Form for an athlete to the Directoire Technique, a Withdrawal for Medical Reason is final and applies to the entire remainder of the competition.

**Withdrawal from the competition for Medical Reasons in Individual Events**

**t.45.8**

1 If a fencer is deemed by the Medical Authority unable to continue during the bout, the fencer is withdrawn from the competition, and the Referee will pronounce victory for the opponent.

2 If Withdrawal occurs before the bout, the fencer's opponent in the next round is, at the start of that round, declared the winner. In particular, if the withdrawal occurs between bouts while the fencer is in the call room, the Medical Withdrawal Form must be completed and submitted to the Directoire Technique before the fencer is scheduled to go to the piste, as a withdrawn fencer will not exit the call room or appear on the piste.

**Withdrawal from the competition for Medical Reasons in Team Events**

**t.45.9**

1 If a fencer is deemed by the Medical Authority unable to continue during the bout, the fencer may be:

2 **Replaced**. If permitted under the rules (cf. o.99.6.a/b). The replaced fencer cannot return during the same team match in which the replacement was granted. The Medical Authority must complete and sign the FIE Medical Replacement Form. This form must be submitted without delay to the Directoire Technique. The replaced fencer may still return to play in subsequent matches on the same day if **clearance** is granted by signing the designated part of the FIE Medical Replacement Form by the Medical Authority before the moment of the Draw for the next round of team competition. The **clearance** cannot be submitted during the team's match or after the draw for the next round has been performed.

3 **Withdrawn.** The Medical Authority will complete in full the FIE Medical Withdrawal Form and submit it to the Directoire Technique for inclusion in the official supervisor's report. The athlete is retired from the competition and cannot participate as part of the team in subsequent bouts and matches.

## *Special circumstances*

**t.45.10**

1 At any point during the bout, if the referee has a concern about the fencer's health condition and/or ability to continue the bout, he/she may stop the bout and request the presence of the Medical Authority for evaluation of the fencer's condition. Medical Authority has, after medical assessment, the authority to enforce the Medical Withdrawal or Medical Replacement of the fencer if, by their medical opinion, continuing the bout will pose a medical risk to the fencer's health or would significantly impair their physical ability to perform safely and effectively.

2 In cases where an injury or condition is suspected to be life-threatening or where prompt reaction can lead to permanent consequences, there must be no restriction on access for those who need or seek to assist the athlete, regardless of the presence of the Medical Authority. In the event of abuse of this provision, and upon the decision of the FIE Medical Delegate, the person responsible shall be sanctioned as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.168, and t.170 for the offences of the 3rd group.

**3** If needed to better assess the injury or other medical condition, the Medical Authority may be allowed to view the video replay independently. This video review is permitted solely for medical evaluation purposes and cannot be used to make, review, or influence any refereeing decisions.

**4** In situations when one fencer on the team has been **replaced** for medical reasons, and **clearance** was not confirmed by Directoire Technique, and second fencer on the same team sustains an injury or other medical condition that is deemed by the Medical Authority, so severe that the fencer is unable to continue, the both of them must be **withdrawn** from the competition, and the team is retired form the competition. The Referee will pronounce victory for the opponent team.

**5** If the withdrawal of two fencers of the team and the subsequent retirement of the team occur before the bout, the team's opponent in the next round is declared the winner. In particular, if the withdrawal occurs between bouts while the teams are in the call room, the Medical Withdrawal Forms must be completed and submitted to the Directoire Technique before the team is scheduled to go to the piste, as a withdrawn team will not exit the call room or appear on the piste.

# 2026 World Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships
# Medical Delegate Report

**Delegates:** Dr Lisa Huzel (lead), Dr Jameleddine Ferjani, Dr Lazar Miceta.

The 2026 World Junior and Cadet Fencing Championships were held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from April 1-9, 2026. For the first 7 days of the event, the venue consisted of 2 separate locations; arena Carioca 1 and the Velodrome. Early in the morning April 8th, there was a fire on the roof of the Velodrome so it was necessary to run all the events at Carioca 1. The Velodrome was used for pools up to the round of 64. The 2 buildings were about 300m apart – the time to walk between them was approximately 6-8 minutes. Because of the high temperatures there were shuttle buses used to transport officials and athletes between the 2 buildings at the start and end of each round.

Local medical coverage was contracted to a local company who provides medical coverage for events held by the Confederação Brasileira de Esgrima (CBE). It was not possible to communicate with the teams prior to the event and we did not know in advance which team would be present any given day. Each day 2 physicians with experience in Sports Medicine as well as 2 nurses and 4 ambulance personnel were present at the event. Two ambulances were present at the event starting at 0730. The local medical team arrived at 0800. One physician/nurse/ambulance team remained at the venue until the end of the finals. No physiotherapy services were provided by the CBE. The arrangement was set in advance, which meant that during later days when pools started at an earlier time that the local medical team still arrived at 0800.

The Medical station at Carioca 1 was beside the DT. As the coloured pistes were on the opposite side of the field of play from the Medical station, in later days, the Medical station would be relocated to an area closer to the coloured pistes when they were the only pistes in use, then relocated to the finals piste area for semifinals/finals. During the DEs, chairs were set up beside the medical station for team medical staff.

The initial plans for the Velodrome had the medical station located beside the DT, but as that area was required for other uses, the medical station was set up across the field of play on an elevated dais. Chairs were set up along a ramp leading up to this platform for team medical staff.

At the beginning of the event, there was no system in place which allowed the referees to call the Medical Delegate to the strip. The Allstar system of watches to summon Medical or SEMI became available the second day of the competition. As there were a limited number of watches, only 3 were available to the Medical team generally, one watch would be given to a member of the local medical team at each venue and one would be used by one of the Medical Delegates.

As the number of pistes in the Velodrome was up to 17 (vs 12 in Carioca) 2 Medical delegates would cover the Velodrome and 1 would cover Carioca. Depending on the number of pistes in use during the DE rounds, at times one Medical Delegate would move to Carioca prior to the round of 32. As the round of 32 and subsequent rounds were all in Carioca, one Medical Delegate would have the option to leave at that point, since a 3rd Delegate was not necessary. On days where Doping Control was done, one Delegate would be responsible for meeting with the DCO and supervising the sample collection process, while a second Delegate would cover the matches held on the finals piste (semifinals/finals for individual events, finals for team events).

On the 8th and 9th day of the tournament it was necessary to run all events in Carioca 1. On the 8th day this meant that pistes were set up in the hallways, in an area that had been used for Weapon Control and on an upper level. This was particularly challenging because the additional pistes did not have a mechanism to call the Medical Delegate. One Medical Delegate covered the upper level, one covered the "standard" Carioca Field of Play and the 3rd covered the hallway/Weapons Control pistes. There were also concerns regarding the temperature in the hallway pistes; fans were set up and referees working in these areas were given dispensation to remove their jackets.

- 3 ambulance transfers to hospital

Men's team foil: fencer suffered a concussion after colliding with his opponent. He was experiencing significant nausea and dizziness so was transported to hospital with a member of the local medical team accompanying him.

A women's epee fencer collapsed in the area between the 2 venues and was transported to hospital with a Medical Delegate in attendance.

During the women's cadet epee event a referee who had a past history of concussion was hit by a fencer's weapon (before the start of the bout, not during a match), fell to the ground and complained of concussion type symptoms and was transported to hospital.

## Strengths

The organizing committee of the Championships very quickly acted on any safety issues – areas that were identified as trip hazards were either repaired or marked with safety tape, and when there were concerns about the ambient temperature, bottled water and fans were provided. They also responded to requests to relocate the Carioca medical desk over the course of the day. It was particularly helpful when a member of the LOC was identified as the "go-to" person for any requests from the Medical Delegates. On the 8th day of the tournament when it was necessary to run the entire competition in the one hall, the LOC and the DT worked together quickly to come up with a plan.

A member of the LOC remained at the venue until the end of Doping Control in order to transport the Medical Delegate back to the hotel.

## Challenges/Opportunities

The local medical team was limited in terms of supplies – they initially did not have simple bandages for small lacerations, and they did not have athletic tape.

There were many athletes from nations who did not have team physios; they would often approach the medical station asking for physiotherapy services. In some cases physiotherapists from other national teams were willing to provide treatment.

Having 2 separate venues was difficult due to the weather conditions (hot and humid) rather than due to the actual distance.

The limitation in the number of watches available for the Medical team (delegates and Local Medical) is problematic as it can slow down the response time and/or time for treatment of an injured athlete).

There is a widespread belief among athletes that a Medical break = a 5 minute break. Many would ask for more time to "rest" in cases when treatment of the injury took less than 5 minutes.

Medical breaks documented on pool sheets/DE score sheets would be printed on subsequent score sheets, however, the Medical delegate would not see this sheet prior to assessing the athlete; this could lead to a scenario where one Medical Delegate would do an initial assessment/treatment and a second Medical Delegate would do a second assessment/treatment before realizing that a first medical break had been granted. We asked that the referee show the Medical Delegate the score sheet prior to the athlete being assessed.

There was an incident where a team doctor who was being allowed access to athletes on the piste was found to have "ENT" designation on his accreditation. After he was told that he did not have team Medical accreditation he argued that he was a team doctor, but subsequently he did not re-enter the field of play. A system where the accreditations of team medical could be quickly identified as being different from other accreditations would lessen the likelihood of such an incident.

## Notable Medical Incidents

There were 2 episodes where an athlete asked for a second medical time out for the same issue.

- a) An athlete who had a medical time out for lower back pain asked for another medical time out for back pain in a subsequent round – during this second episode the team physio began treating the athlete. It was necessary for the referee to explain to the athlete that she could not have a second medical break for the same problem.
- b) An athlete asked for a medical time out during a semifinal match for arm cramp; he had already received a medical time with treatment during an earlier round. When he was informed that he could not have a second time out for the same problem, he indicated that

he had not asked for 5 minutes. The Medical delegate explained that he had asked for a break because of a cramp and was treated, and thus had received a medical break.

- 2. On the final day of the tournament, a coach approached the Medical station and indicated that they had an athlete who had nausea and vomiting and was unable to leave her hotel room due to feeling unwell. The request was made for a physician to go to the hotel to assess the athlete. This request was denied; the coach then asked if they could bring the athlete to the venue for assessment. He was told that if the athlete was that sick and needed assessment that she should be taken to hospital. Some time later the athlete was brought to the venue to the medical desk. She was assessed and noted to be pale, with a low blood pressure. It was suggested that she go to hospital to be assessed, but the athlete declined transfer. The coach mentioned that there was another fencer at the hotel who had nausea and vomiting the night before and asked if he could bring her to the venue to be assessed – he was given advice for management (anti-nausea medications, electrolyte replacement solution).
- 3. Athletes/coach with nausea and vomiting – Athletes and a coach from a national team had issues with nausea and vomiting which were attributed to food poisoning. The coach was administered IV fluids.
- 4. Empty ampules found in men's bathroom: Empty ampules were found by cleaning staff in the men's bathroom. None of the medications were on the WADA prohibited list, but if they were being used by athletes, the WADA no-needle policy was not being adhered to.
- 5. Episode with female epee fencer during the team event: An athlete asked for a time out, appeared to have a lower limb injury, but after the Medical Delegate indicated that she would have to withdraw the coach argued with the Medical Delegate that she was fine to remain in. There was discussion with the referee; the Medical Delegate requested that the DT should be called to adjudicate but instead the head of the referee commission was called. There is also video evidence of the athlete leaving the strip and having tape applied to her ankle.

## Doping Control

The person in charge of arranging the DCOs for the tournament sent names and contact information for all the DCOs. There was a different DCO each night (with the exception of one DCO who did doping control twice). The first night there was an issue with a chaperone notifying the winner of a semifinal that he had been selected for doping control. This athlete went on to win the final, and made no comments about the early notification during doping control. On the 4th night, a chaperone almost notified an athlete prematurely (in this scenario the chaperone thought that the semifinal match was the final), but a delegate from another commission saw what was about to happen and stopped the chaperone and then notified the Medical Delegate covering the finals of the error. The appropriate athletes were notified during the finals match.

To mitigate this, an email was sent out to the DCOs explaining the organization of the semifinals and finals matches, and stressing the importance of postponing sample collection until after the

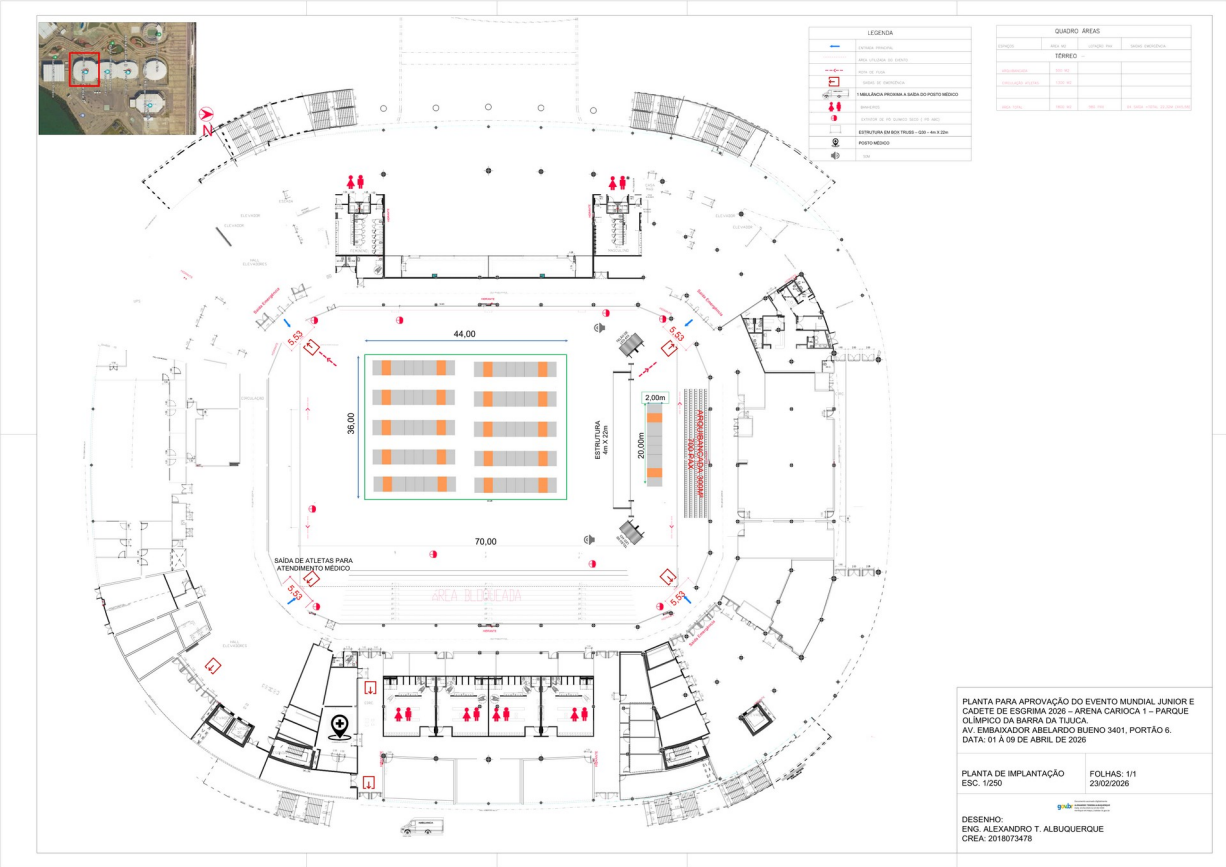
medal ceremony.  In some cases the athletes went to the sample collection area for the purposes of obtaining the information that would be used for completing the doping control form and then returned to the sample collection area after the medal ceremony.

There is often an issue with athletes going to the doping control area for sample collection prior to the medal ceremony, and then presenting to the area for the medal ceremony without their national team track suit.  This is an issue that needs to be addressed by the protocol team; it should not be the responsibility of the Medical Delegate.

Several athletes under the age of 18 underwent doping control; in each case a chaperone from their national team accompanied them to the doping control station.

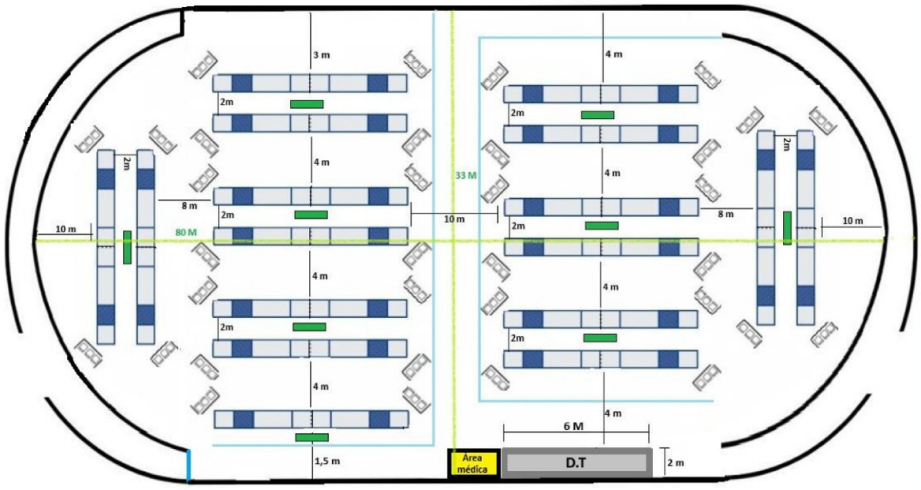
## Appendix: Venue Layouts

Arena Carioca 1




Velodrome

# Velódromo


3 m
2m
4 m
2m
4 m
2m
4

# FIE Hong Kong Fencing Sports Medicine Conference
## CONFERENCE PROGRAM
## July 23 2026

| Time | Topics | Speaker |
|---|---|---|
| 13:00 – 13:30 | Registration & Welcome Coffee | |
| 13:30 – 13:50 | Welcome Remark & Conference Keynote | |
| | FIE Interim President | Abdelmoneim ElHusseiny |
| | FIE Secretary General | Gulnora Saidova |
| | Chair, ASOIF Medical and Science Commission | Dr. Margo Mountjoy |
| | Honorary Chairman, Hong Kong Sports Medicine Conference | Jeno Kamuti, MD |
| | Conference Chairman & Chair of the Scientific and Educational Committee | Hosam El-Sherbiny, MD |
| | Chairman of Fencing Association of Hong Kong, China | Alexander N. W. Yeung |
| | President, FIE Medical Commission | Antonio Fiore, MD |
| **Keynote Session** | | |
| 13:50 - 14:10 | FIE Medical Commission Strategic Planning: From Scope, Challenges, and Priorities to Implementation, Monitoring, and Achievements | Hosam El-Sherbiny, MD |
| 14:10 - 14:30 | Integrating Safe Sport and Medical Screening into Fencing Pathways: Insights from Three Olympic Medalists and Junior Athletes in Japan | Anna Tomori, MD |
| **THEME 1 \| Injury Prevention, Biomechanics & Load Management** | | |
| 14:30 - 14:45 | Surgical Treatment of Fencing Injuries: Review of the Literature and Clinical Aspects | Lazar Miceta, MD |
| 14:45 - 15:00 | Fencing-related Orbital and Ophthalmic Injuries, and a Local Case Sharing of Hong Kong Fencing Coach Penetrating Cranio-orbital Injury | Chan Ho Yan, MBBS |
| 15:00 - 15:15 | Dynamic Balance is Similar Between Lower Extremities in Elite Fencers | Nader Abdelkader, DC |
| 15:15 - 15:30 | Joint replacement in veteran fencers: prevalence, predictors, and asymmetrical patterns associated with fencing | Lindsay Bottoms, PhD |
| 15:30 - 16:00 | Coffee Break & Networking | |
| **THEME 2 \| Performance Optimisation, Recovery & Athlete Wellbeing** | | |
| 16:00 - 16:10 | Mind, Performance and Inclusion in Modern Fencing: Psychological Readiness, Neurodevelopment and Athlete Well-being | Luigi Mazzone, MD |
| 16:10 - 16:20 | Physiological, cognitive and performance distinctions Between Elite and Non-Elite Fencers | Charilaos Tsolakis, PhD |
| 16:20 - 16:30 | Motor-Cognitive Profiling: Bridging the Gap Between Cognition and Motor Performance in Fencing | Daria Zhigulskaya |
| 16:30 - 16:40 | NEKA Methodology – Transforming Potential into Sustainable Performance An Integrated Long-Term Athlete Development System | Mocsai Tamás |
| 16:40 - 16:50 | LINCE PLUS: open source software for observational analysis in fencing | Xavier Iglesias, PhD<br>Alberto Soto, PhD |
| **THEME 3 \| Athlete Safety, Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion & Closing Session** | | |
| 16:50 - 17:00 | Epidemiology of Acute Sports Injuries in Hong Kong Elite Fencing Athletes: A Retrospective Analysis of Prospectively Collected Injury Surveillance Data | Wing Ching Leung, MPT |
| 17:00 - 17:10 | Acne Mechanica in Fencers: A Narrative Review of Equipment-Related Cutaneous Risk and Management | Alex Silberzweig |
| 17:10 - 17:20 | Fencing Injuries: Identification, Prevention, and Rehabilitation Protocols | Magdy Ahmed, MD |
| 17:20 - 17:30 | Presentation of the access model for young athletes in Montenegro - health, sport and education through the innovative pilot project ARIST | Olivera Prodanovic, MD |
| 17:30 - 17:40 | Thermal challenges in Fencing: the known and the unknown | Flora Vajda, MD |
| 17:40 - 18:00 | Closing Remarks | |
| Digital Poster Presentation | Genetic Determination of the Formation of Body Types and the Manifestation of Sports Abilities | Dilbar D. Safarova, PhD |
| | Recovery in Fencing Performance: A Practical Approach from the Nigerian Fencing Environment | Alogba Ibrahim |
| | Development and Pilot Implementation of Thailand's First National Fencing Injury Surveillance System | Korakot Charakorn MD |

# FIE Hong Kong Sports Medicine Conference 2026 - Final Reconciled Abstract Matrix

*Source hierarchy: final Conference Programme for inclusion, order, session and format; final Book of Abstracts for scientific content; original Abstract Review Matrix for review/taxonomy fields. No missing review fields have been reconstructed by inference.*

| # | Title | Presenting Author | Co-authors | Country | Institution(s) | Abstract Type | Topic Category | Subcategory | Study Design | Population | Methods Summary | Key Findings / Contribution | Keywords | Final Session | Final Presentation Format |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | FIE Medical Commission Strategic Planning: From Scope, Challenges, and Priorities to Implementation, Monitoring, and Achievements | Hosam EL-Sherbiny | Not specified | Egypt | FIE Medical Commission | Policy / Strategic Review | Sports Governance / Medical Commission | Strategy; implementation; monitoring | Strategic review | FIE Medical Commission | Review of scope, challenges, priorities, implementation pathways and achievements of FIE Medical Commission | Framework for medical governance, monitoring systems and strategic development within FIE | medical commission; governance; strategy; athlete health | Keynote Session | Oral |
| 2 | Integrating Safe Sport and Medical Screening into Fencing Pathways: Insights from Three Olympic Medalists and Junior Athletes in Japan | Anna Tomori | Not specified | Japan | Japan High Performance Sports Center Japan Institute of Sports Sciences Department of Sports Medicine and Research Sports Clinic | Observational Report / Athlete Health | Safe Sport / Athlete Screening | Medical screening; athlete welfare | Observational report | Olympic medalists and junior athletes in Japan | Insights from screening and safe sport integration programs | Highlights value of structured screening and safe sport pathways in athlete development | safe sport; screening; athlete welfare | Keynote Session | Oral |
| 3 | Surgical Treatment of Fencing Injuries: Review of the Literature and Clinical Aspects | Lazar Miceta | Not specified | Serbia | FIE Medical Commission | Narrative Review | Sports Medicine / Surgery | Surgical management; injuries | Narrative review | Competitive fencers | Review of surgical treatment options for fencing-related injuries | Summarizes indications, procedures and outcomes of surgical management in fencing injuries | surgery; injuries; orthopaedics; rehabilitation | Theme 1 \| Injury Prevention, Biomechanics & Load Management | Oral |
| 4 | Fencing-related Orbital and Ophthalmic Injuries, and a Local Case Sharing of Hong Kong Fencing Coach Penetrating Cranio-orbital Injury | Chan Ho Yan | Not specified | Hong Kong SAR, China | Specialist in Ophthalmology in Hong Kong | Narrative Review + Case Sharing | Athlete Safety / Ophthalmology | Orbital injury; ocular trauma; protective equipment | Narrative review and local case report | Fencers and fencing coach case | Literature review of blunt and penetrating orbital/ophthalmic injury mechanisms plus Hong Kong case sharing | Injuries range from minor soft-tissue injury to sight-and life-threatening penetrating cranio-orbital trauma; equipment compliance is critical | ocular trauma; orbital injury; mask; FIE equipment | Theme 1 \| Injury Prevention, Biomechanics & Load Management | Oral |
| 5 | Dynamic Balance is Similar Between Lower Extremities in Elite Fencers | Nader Abdelkader | Stephen H.M. Brown; Tyson A.C. Beach; Samuel J. Howarth | Canada | Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College; University of Guelph; University of Waterloo | Original Research | Biomechanics / Rehabilitation | Dynamic balance; lower extremity asymmetry | Descriptive laboratory study | 14 uninjured elite Canadian fencers | Y-Balance Test on lead and trail legs; normalized reach distances; paired t-tests | No significant lead vs trail dynamic balance asymmetry; YBT may support training and rehabilitation monitoring | fencing; lower extremity; asymmetry; Y-balance test | Theme 1 \| Injury Prevention, Biomechanics & Load Management | Oral |
| 6 | Joint replacement in veteran fencers: prevalence, predictors, and asymmetrical patterns associated with fencing | Lindsay Bottoms | Jonathan Sinclair; Katharine Holmes | United Kingdom | University of Hertfordshire; IFRC; University of Central Lancashire; Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai | Original Research | Long-term Joint Health | Veteran fencers; arthroplasty; asymmetry | Cross-sectional online survey | 248 veteran fencers aged 39 years or older | Survey data; descriptive statistics; chi-square tests; multivariable logistic regression | 22.2% reported hip or knee joint replacement; age strongest predictor; lead-limb replacements more common | joint replacement; veteran fencing; hip; knee; asymmetry | Theme 1 \| Injury Prevention, Biomechanics & Load Management | Oral |
| 7 | Mind, Performance and Inclusion in Modern Fencing: Psychological Readiness, Neurodevelopment and Athlete Well-being | Luigi Mazzone | Not specified in Book of Abstracts | Italy | University of Tor Vergata, Rome; President, Italian Fencing Federation | Not documented in original review matrix | Not documented in original review matrix | Not documented in original review matrix | Not explicitly stated in Book of Abstracts | Not explicitly stated | Narrative scientific discussion of epidemiological, neurobiological and developmental evidence on mental health, sport participation, inclusion, psychological safety and neurodevelopment. | Sport may support mental and physical wellbeing, but benefits depend on inclusive, safe and developmentally appropriate sporting environments. | Not explicitly stated in Book of Abstracts | Theme 2 \| Performance Optimisation, Recovery & Athlete Wellbeing | Oral |
| 8 | Physiological, cognitive and performance distinctions Between Elite and Non-Elite Fencers | Charilaos Tsolakis | Not specified | Greece | International Fencing Research Committee; INEFC | Narrative Review | Performance Physiology / Cognition | Elite vs non-elite; asymmetry | Narrative synthesis | Elite and non-elite fencers from literature | Synthesis of physiological, cognitive, and performance characteristics and asymmetry literature | Elite fencers show superior aerobic efficiency, power, coordination, attentional control, anticipation, and tactical execution | physiology; cognition; elite performance; asymmetry | Theme 2 \| Performance Optimisation, Recovery & Athlete Wellbeing | Oral |
| 9 | Motor-Cognitive Profiling: Bridging the Gap Between Cognition and Motor Performance in Fencing | Daria Zhigulskaya | Not specified in Book of Abstracts | Netherlands | Electrome Lab B.V. | Not documented in original review matrix | Not documented in original review matrix | Not documented in original review matrix | Not explicitly labelled in Book of Abstracts | 7 elite Bulgarian National Sabre Team fencers (3 male, 4 female; 23 ± 2 years) | Motor-Cognitive Profiling was applied to fencing footwork, testing athletes individually to identify cognitive domains negatively affecting motor performance. | The presentation links cognition and motor performance through individualized, data-driven profiling intended to support targeted training. | Not explicitly stated in Book of Abstracts | Theme 2 \| Performance Optimisation, Recovery & Athlete Wellbeing | Oral |
| 10 | NEKA Methodology - Transforming Potential into Sustainable Performance: An Integrated Long-Term Athlete Development System | Mocsai Tamás | Not specified in Book of Abstracts | Hungary | Not explicitly stated in Book of Abstracts | Not documented in original review matrix | Not documented in original review matrix | Not documented in original review matrix | Not explicitly labelled in Book of Abstracts | Athletes developed within the NEKA long-term athlete development system | Description of the NEKA multidisciplinary long-term athlete development model integrating talent identification, coaching, S&C, medical/rehabilitation support, sport psychology, performance analysis and education. | The abstract reports 21 academy-developed athletes reaching Hungarian senior national teams and nearly 150 competing in Hungary's top professional league. | Not explicitly stated in Book of Abstracts | Theme 2 \| Performance Optimisation, Recovery & Athlete Wellbeing | Oral |
| 11 | LINCE PLUS: open source software for observational analysis in fencing | Xavier Iglesias | Alberto Soto | Spain | International Fencing Research Committee; INEFC | Software / Methods | Performance Analysis / Technology | Observational analysis; video; tactical analysis | Software / methodological abstract | Coaches, researchers, fencers, and referees | Description of open-source software functions for systematic video-based observation | Supports frame-accurate coding, multiple videos, collaboration, reliability assessment, export to Excel/R, Python/Jupyter, and AI pose tools | LINCE PLUS; video analysis; technical-tactical actions; observation | Theme 2 \| Performance Optimisation, Recovery & Athlete Wellbeing | Oral |
| 12 | Epidemiology of Acute Sports Injuries in Hong Kong Elite Fencing Athletes: A Retrospective Analysis of Prospectively Collected Injury Surveillance Data | Wing Ching Leung | Kate Kai-Yee Yung; Umme Habiba; Matthew Jia-Yuan Tung; Wenjie Pan; Samuel Ka-Kin Ling; Patrick Shu-Hang Yung | Hong Kong SAR, China | Hong Kong Sports Institute; Chinese University of Hong Kong; University of Southern California; Prince of Wales Hospital | Original Research | Injury Epidemiology | Acute injuries; elite athletes; surveillance | Retrospective surveillance analysis | 61 elite fencers over one competitive season | Injury surveillance data from Oct 2022 to Oct 2023; incidence, type, location, mechanism | Overall injury rate 2.84/1,000 training hours; sprains/strains common; sabre highest injury rate; time-loss uncommon | injury surveillance; elite fencing; sprains; strains | Theme 3 \| Athlete Safety, Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion & Closing Session | Oral |
| 13 | Acne Mechanica in Fencers: A Narrative Review of Equipment-Related Cutaneous Risk and Management | Alex Silberzweig | Not specified | USA | University of Pennsylvania, Medical School | Narrative Review | Sports Dermatology / Athlete Health | Acne mechanica; equipment hygiene; adolescents | Narrative review | Adolescent fencers / athletes | Review of dermatology, sports medicine, and microbiology literature | Fencing masks create an acnegenic microenvironment through occlusion, heat, friction, and microbial accumulation; hygiene protocols need study | acne mechanica; maskne; equipment hygiene; adolescent athletes | Theme 3 \| Athlete Safety, Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion & Closing Session | Oral |
| 14 | Fencing Injuries: Identification, Prevention, and Rehabilitation Protocols | Magdy Mostafa Ahmed | Not specified | Egypt | Egyptian Fencing Federation | Academic Abstract | Sports Medicine / Biomechanics | Injury prevention; rehabilitation; warm- up | Systematic review + biomechanical analysis | Competitive fencers / injury literature | Review of injury patterns across shoulder, wrist, elbow, knee, and ankle plus biomechanical analysis of fencing movements | Lower extremity injuries account for approximately 49%; lead knee and ankle affected; comprehensive prevention framework recommended | fencing injuries; musculoskeletal; injury prevention; biomechanics; warm-up protocols | Theme 3 \| Athlete Safety, Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion & Closing Session | Oral |
| 15 | Presentation of the access model for young athletes in Montenegro - health, sport and education through the innovative pilot project ARIST | Olivera Prodanovic | Snezana Pantovic; Aleksandar Vujicic; Mirjana Jovanovic-Duraskovic | Montenegro | Montenegrin Fencing Federation; Institute for Blood Transfusion of Montenegro; University of Montenegro; A3 Medical; Medical School Podgorica | Project Report / Education Program | Youth Athlete Health / Education | Physical activity; nutrition; rehabilitation; clean sport | Pilot project report | Primary and secondary school students aged 13-19 across 9 municipalities and 17 schools | Educational caravan with lectures and workshops on nutrition, rehabilitation, anti-doping, diagnostics, first aid, and oral health | ARIST highlights need for long-term education, coordinated sports medicine structures, and youth athlete support in Montenegro | ARIST; youth sport; nutrition; rehabilitation; anti-doping | Theme 3 \| Athlete Safety, Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion & Closing Session | Oral |
| 16 | Thermal challenges in Fencing: the known and the unknown | Flora Vajda | Not specified | Hungary | Hungarian Fencing Federation / World Athletics | Narrative Review | Environmental Physiology | Heat stress; thermoregulation | Narrative review | Competitive fencers | Review of thermal stress and physiological challenges during fencing | Identifies known and emerging issues related to heat strain and performance | heat; thermoregulation; environment; performance | Theme 3 \| Athlete Safety, Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion & Closing Session | Oral |
| 17 | Genetic Determination of the Formation of Body Types and the Manifestation of Sports Abilities | Dilbar D. Safarova | Saidova G.T. | Uzbekistan | Uzbek State University of Physical Culture and Sports | Original Research / Review | Talent Identification / Sports Genetics | Genetics; body type; sports ability | Genetics review | Athletes | Role of genetic determinants in body type formation and sports abilities | Discusses genetic influences on athletic traits and performance potential | genetics; body type; talent identification | Digital Poster Presentation | Digital Poster |
| 18 | Recovery in Fencing Performance: A Practical Approach from the Nigerian Fencing Environment | Alogba Ibrahim | Not specified | Nigeria | Nigerian Fencing Federation / Nigerian fencing environment | Practical Review | Recovery / Performance Optimization | Between-bout recovery; sleep; hydration | Practical coaching perspective / narrative review | Fencers in Nigerian/African competition settings | Practical analysis of physical and mental fatigue and feasible recovery strategies | Simple, low-cost recovery habits may improve consistency, decision-making, and later-round performance | recovery; hydration; sleep; fatigue; African fencing | Digital Poster Presentation | Digital Poster |
| 19 | Development and Pilot Implementation of Thailand's First National Fencing Injury Surveillance System | Korakot Charakorn | Not specified in Book of Abstracts | Thailand | Not specified in Book of Abstracts | Not documented in original review matrix | Not documented in original review matrix | Not documented in original review matrix | Pilot injury surveillance survey | Thai national fencing athletes | A fencing-specific injury surveillance questionnaire was developed from the literature and piloted among Thai national fencers; descriptive statistics were used. | Standardized injury data collection was feasible; recurrent injuries and potentially modifiable risk factors were identified, providing a basis for nationwide surveillance. | Not explicitly stated in Book of Abstracts | Digital Poster Presentation | Digital Poster |

**FIE Hong Kong Sports Medicine Conference**

A Multidisciplinary Approach to Health, Performance, and Safety in Modern Fencing

Half-Day (Afternoon) July 23, 2026

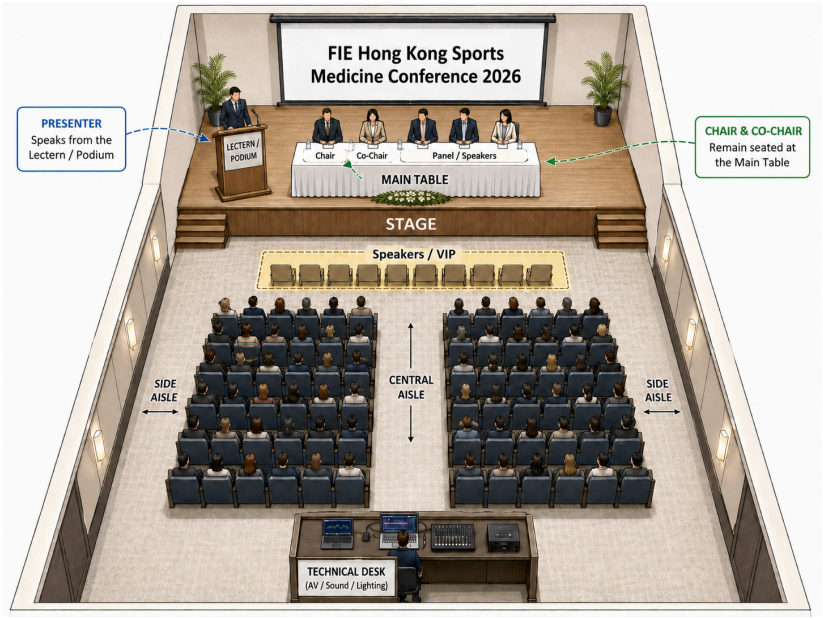
**Stage, Seating, and Session Management Plan**

Conference room capacity: 80 persons equipped with a large-format LED display screen

Proposed by Hosam El-Sherbiny, MD

FIE Medical Commission

1. Stage Setup




The stage should be arranged to clearly separate the roles of the session chairs, speakers, and invited representatives. The setup should allow smooth movement between the seating area and the speakers' podium.

Recommended arrangement:

- A main table should be placed on the stage for the session chair and any designated panel members or officials.
- The lectern/podium should be placed on one side of the stage, preferably stage right or stage left, depending on the venue layout and visibility.
- The screen should remain clearly visible to both the audience and the speakers.
- A clear walking path should be maintained between the stage seating area and the podium.
- Name tags should be placed in front of each person seated at the main table.

2. Speakers' Podium / Lectern

The podium should be used by all presenters when delivering their presentations.

Recommended arrangement:

- The podium should include a microphone.
- A laptop or presentation clicker should be available.
- The podium should face the audience directly.
- The podium should not block the screen.

- A small light may be added if speakers need to read notes.
- Technical support should be available nearby to assist with presentations.

Suggested protocol:

- Speakers remain seated in the audience or designated seating area before their presentation.
- When introduced by the chair, the speaker moves to the podium.
- After the presentation, the speaker returns to their seat unless they are part of a panel discussion.

3. Session Chair Seating

Each session should have the Chair in all session and a designated Co-Chair.

The chair and co-chairs should be seated at the main table on stage during the session. The co-chair will be designated by the Education and Scientific Committee according to topics and expertise .

Responsibilities of the session chair:

- Open the session.
- Introduce the speakers.
- Manage the timing of presentations with time management assistance person .
- Moderate questions and discussion.
- Conclude the session.
- Ensure smooth transition to the next speaker or session.

Recommended seating:

- The chair should sit at the center of the main table.
- The co-chair should sit next to the chair.
- Other panel members should be seated according to protocol or seniority.

4. Persons Seated on Stage

The number of people seated on stage should be confirmed in advance for each session.

The following people may need seats on stage:

- Session Chair
- Session Co-chair
- Key officials or representatives
- Panel members
- Rapporteur, if required
- Special guests, if required by protocol

Presenters do not necessarily need to be seated on stage permanently unless they are part of a panel or official discussion.

Recommended rule:

- Only the session chair, co-chair, and official panel members should remain seated on stage.
- Individual presenters should come to the podium when invited and return to their seats afterward.

5. Name Tags

Name tags should be prepared for all people seated on stage.

Each name tag should include:

- Full name
- Title or role
- Organization or country, if relevant

Example:

Dr. [Full Name]
Chair, Session 1
[Organization]

A final list of names after receiving the final invitees and VIP list should be confirmed with the organizers before printing.

6. Seating Plan by Session

A separate seating plan should be prepared for each session, especially if the co-chair or panel members change.

For each session, the following information should be confirmed:

- Session title
- Session time
- Name of chairperson
- Name of co-chair
- Names of speakers
- Names of people seated on stage
- Number of seats required on stage
- Number of name tags required
- FIE Special protocol requirements

7. Recommended Stage Layout

Suggested layout:

Audience View

[Screen]

[Main Table on Stage]
Chair | Co-Chair | Panel Member | Panel Member

[Lectern / Podium]

Audience Seating

The lectern should be positioned so that the speaker is clearly visible and does not block the screen.

8. Movement and Speaking Flow

The following flow is recommended for each session:

1. Session chair opens the session from the table or podium.
2. Chair introduces the first speaker.
3. Speaker comes to the podium.
4. Speaker delivers the presentation.
5. Speaker returns to seat.
6. Chair introduces the next speaker.
7. After all presentations, the chair moderates questions and discussion.
8. Chair closes the session and thanks the speakers.
9. Next session chair and participants move into position.
10. Coordination with Organizers

The organizers should receive the final stage plan in advance.

Information to share with organizers:

- Number of chairs required on stage for each session
- Names and roles for name tags
- Position of lectern/podium
- Microphone requirements
- Screen and laptop requirements
- Timing of each session (Program)
- Any FIE VIP or protocol seating requirements

10. Technical Requirements

The following technical items should be checked before the event:

- Podium microphone
- Table microphones for chair and panel members
- Presentation laptop
- Slide clicker
- Screen/projector
- Timer or clock visible to speakers
- Water for speakers and chairpersons
- Reserved seating for speakers
- Technical support person available throughout the sessions
- Technical Support for remote online speakers or video recoded

11. Final Confirmation Checklist

Before the event, confirm the following:

- Final program
- Chairperson and co-chair of each session
- Speakers for each session
- Names of people seated on stage
- Number of seats required on stage
- Name tags printed and checked
- Podium position confirmed
- Microphones tested
- Presentations uploaded and tested
- Seating plan shared with organizers
- FIE Protocol/VIP requirements confirmed

12. Suggested Message to Send to Organizers

# REPORT OF THE FIE PCM COMMISSION

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 57**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** This provision was necessary for the 2024 Congress, when new requirements were introduced and made obligatory. It should be removed for 2028 and onwards.

A candidate for the Promotion, Communication and Marketing Commission must:
- have a college or university degree in Marketing, Communications or Media
- or have professional experience in Marketing, Communications or Media
- ~~or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.~~

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** Agrees to the proposal.

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**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.4**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.4.4 If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~3~~ 4 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the ~~3~~ 4 candidates of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~7~~ 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.
If no candidate of one of the genders has been nominated, the 10 candidates ~~of different nationalities~~ of the other gender with the greatest number of votes are elected.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates of such gender put forward who have received at least one

vote and the remainder of the Commission will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

If there are fewer than 10 candidates for a Commission then the Commission will consist of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission then the members of the Commission whose term had just ended shall hold over for the following year until new candidates can be presented and an election is held for that Commission at the following Congress.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** Agrees to the proposal.

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## REPORT OF THE FIE PCM COMMISSION

# Proposals for the 2026 Congress

# Modifications of the Organisation Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 1**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.3**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not included into the FIE rankings because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word “cadet” in article o.3.

**o.3** These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the ‘Official Competitions of the FIE’, viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, cadet, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- International competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** Agrees to the proposal.

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**Proposal 2**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles: o.3, o.42, o.55, o.60, o.89, o.108**

**Motivation :** Introduction to Zonal Cadet as part of FIE Competition

**o.3** These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the 'Official Competitions of the FIE', viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, cadet, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- International competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes.

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships and the Cadet and Junior Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, ~~Cadet circuit,~~ etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the **Cadet and** Junior Zonal Championships comprises ~~6~~ **12** individual events, and 6 team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, **Cadet** and Junior Individual Zone Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team Zone Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.55**

The **forms** must be sent to all federations at the same time as the official invitation. The federations must indicate their **intention to participate** three months before the beginning of the Championships.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior, Cadet and Junior Championships***

***Zone Championship***

**o.60**

For **Cadet,** junior and senior Individual Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

**o.108**

**1 Principles**

**c) The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships **and Zonal Championships.**

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** Agrees to the proposal.

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**Proposal 6**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles o.41, o.99, t.41, t.124**

**Motivation:** We considered how to make team matches shorter and more dynamic, with increased suspense through greater individual responsibility for each fencer. The objective is to create a format

that is more attractive for television and digital broadcasting, easier to understand for spectators, and overall more dynamic and spectacular in presentation.

The proposal consists of modifying the current team competition format by introducing a set-based system, according to the following rules:

Each match would be contested as a best-of-three sets (two sets required to win).

Each set would be fenced to 15 touches using the relay format (5–10–15).

The team that wins two sets wins the match.

If each team wins one set, a decisive third set would be fenced to 15 touches.

Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).

Each team would consist of three fencers, with one optional substitute.

Each set would be fenced independently, with the score reset to 0–0 at the start of each set.

Touches would not carry over from one set to another.

Each coach would have one 30-second time-out available per match.

**o.41**

**2 Principles**

c) The matches proceed according to the **2 winning sets** ~~**team-relay**~~ **formula**, as provided for in Article o.99 of these Rules.

**o.99**

The **formula** for the competition is as follows.

**1** The **relay formula 2 winning sets** applies to all weapons.

**2** The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team (~~**9**~~ **relay bouts**). **In 2 winning sets, in case of a tie a 3rd decisive set will be fence.**

**3** The bouts of each **set** match have to be fought in the following **order**:

~~3–6 2–5~~
~~1–5 1–4~~
~~2–4 2–6~~
~~1–6 3–5~~
~~3–4~~

| 1St Set | 2nd Set | 3rd Set |
|---|---|---|
| 3–6 | 2–5 | 1–4 |
| 1–5 | 3–4 | 2–6 |
| 2–4 | 1–6 | 3–5 |

If this order is **altered**, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

4 **The position of each team on the match score-sheet** is decided by drawing lots. **The order of the individual fencers** is then decided by the team captains.

5

**d) Each team captain has one 30-second timeout that can be used during the entire match**

**t.124**

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all ~~9 relays~~ **set**) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts, at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at ~~44-44~~ 14-14 in each set.

**t.41**

1 Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of **five hits** (5, 10, 15~~, 20, etc~~.), ~~Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5, 10, 15 etc. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted;~~ the maximum time for each bout is **3 minutes**.

2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.
**The two opponents in the 3rd relay shoot up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3 minutes.**

3 If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

4 **The winning team** is that which first reaches **2 winning sets** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after~~ ~~the expiry of regulation time.~~
**In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 minutes each.**

5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

- For team Junior competition (season 2027/2028)

- For team Senior competition after LA 2028 (season 2028/2029)

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:**

The proposed bout order creates unequal recovery conditions between the two teams. Fencer 2 fences the final relay of the first set (2–4) and the opening relay of the second set (2–5). If a third set is required, fencer 1 likewise fences the final relay of the second set (1–6) and the opening relay of the third set (1–4). Therefore, fencers from the team numbered 1–2–3 may have to fence two consecutive relays, whereas no fencer from the team numbered 4–5–6 is placed in the same situation. Under the current nine-relay order, no athlete fences two consecutive relays. The proposed order should therefore be revised to ensure equal recovery conditions for both teams.

Accordingly, in my opinion, the bout order currently used in a 45-touch team match should be retained and divided across the three sets as follows, with the score reset to 0-0 at the start of each set:

**1st set**

1st relay: 1 vs 4 (cumulative score up to 5 touches)

2nd relay: 2 vs 5 (cumulative score up to 10 touches)

3rd relay: 3 vs 6 (cumulative score up to 15 touches)

**2nd set**

4th relay: 1 vs 5 (cumulative score up to 5 touches)

5th relay: 3 vs 4 (cumulative score up to 10 touches)

6th relay: 2 vs 6 (cumulative score up to 15 touches)

**3rd set**

7th relay: 3 vs 5 (cumulative score up to 5 touches)

8th relay: 1 vs 6 (cumulative score up to 10 touches)

9th relay: 2 vs 4 (cumulative score up to 15 touches)

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**Proposal 7**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.42**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees,

and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by the FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the Cadet Zonal Championships in article o.42, in order to regulate the entries to these competitions.

**ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships, ~~and~~ the Junior Zonal Championships and the Cadet Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the Junior and Cadet Zonal Championships comprises 6 individual Cadet events and 6 individual Junior events, and 6 Junior team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** Agrees to the proposal.

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**Proposal 9**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.60**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated in FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word "cadet" in article o.60.

***~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship***

**o.60**

For cadet, junior and senior Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** Agrees to the proposal.

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**Proposal 10**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.62**

**Motivation:** In recent years, the number of participants in Senior individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased significantly, which results in extremely long competition days and increased logistical pressure on organizers, referees, athletes and officials. The excessive duration of competitions affects the quality of the event, athlete performance conditions and the overall efficiency of the competition schedule. It also increases organizational costs and operational complexity for host federations.

For the majority of National Federations, which typically enter between 1 and 6 athletes, the introduction of an 8-fencer limit would not restrict their participation. On the contrary, it would create a more balanced competition environment.

**o.62**

**1** For **Grand Prix competitions and Senior Individual World Cup competitions**, ~~Cadet, Junior and Senior, Senior and Junior,~~ at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of ~~12~~ 8 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**2** ~~For **Individual World Cup competitions outside Europe**, the organising country may enter up to 30 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.~~ For **Cadet and Junior Individual World Cup competitions**, at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of 12 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** The PCM Commission is challenging this proposal. Reducing the number of athletes allowed to participate from 12 to 8 would make competitive fencing less

attractive in countries where the sport is still developing. Making access to international competitions more difficult may discourage athletes, lead them to end their competitive careers earlier and ultimately turn away from our sport. This measure would therefore run counter to the objective of developing fencing worldwide.

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**Proposal 11**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.83, o.85, o.86, o.87**

**Motivation:** In recent years, participation in individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased considerably, with some events reaching over 300 athletes. Many of the athletes ask for equal conditions in the individual competition. In order to have equal conditions in senior FIE competitions, all the participants should start compete from the pools. After the pools all the qualifies athletes will fence the direct elimination table up to T64 in the first day. No top 16 world ranking exempte, no top 16 after the pools will be qualify direct to the T64. In the second day the rest of T64 will be fence. So all Senior FIE events will use one unifies formula.

All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

***C. MIXED FORMULA A. SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, SENIOR WORLD CUPS AND GRAND PRIX***

**Mixed formula A**

**o.83**

One qualifying round of pools, a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table~~, a main direct elimination table~~ of ~~64~~ fencers to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Senior World Championships as well as for the Senior World Cup competitions and Grand Prix competitions.

**o.85**

1 The competition consists of two phases, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.

~~2 The 16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification are exempt from the preliminary phase.~~

~~3~~ 2 Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.

~~4 In the case of a tie in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.~~

**o.86**

1 For World Cups ~~T~~the preliminary phase consists of one round of pools, from which 25% ~~20%–30%~~ of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all participants ~~competing in them~~, and a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table until 64 fencers remain. For World Championship and Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

~~2 After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf o.73) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the 16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers is determined according to V, HS-HR, HS.~~

~~3~~ 2 The remainder of the fencers qualifying from the pools will make up a ~~preliminary integral~~ direct elimination table. This will be based on the indices of the fencers in all the pools (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots). This table, be it complete or incomplete, will be fenced until only 64 ~~32~~ fencers remain.

**o.87**

1 The main phase consists of a~~n~~ 64 integral direct elimination table, which is fenced on four pistes, one quarter of the table per piste. The first round of the table of 64 may, however, if required for the organisation of the competition, be fenced on eight pistes. Grand Prix competitions must be fenced either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video refereeing.

~~2 The seeded fencers exempted from the preliminary phase occupy places 1–16 in this table, drawing lots in pairs in the order of their official FIE classification.~~

~~3 Should one of the 16 exempted fencers who had been entered not present himself to fence (cf. o.85), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.~~

~~4 The 16 fencers who have the highest indices after the round of pools and who are thus exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table will take places 17–32, classified in the order of their indices (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots).~~

~~5~~ ~~The 32 fencers qualifying from the~~ preliminary direct elimination table will ~~occupy places 33–64, classified according to their indices after the round of pools.~~

~~6 The drawing of lots and allocation of the qualified fencers in the main table (T64) shall be made at the end of the preliminary table in the presence of the Directoire Technique President.~~

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** The PCM Commission is challenging this proposal for two reasons. First, although the pool results would still be used to determine the cut and establish the ranking for the preliminary direct elimination table, the proposal would remove direct qualification to the following day's Table of 64 for the 16 best-performing fencers after the pools. In our view, a strong performance in the pools should continue to provide a meaningful sporting advantage. The 16 highest-ranked fencers after the pools should therefore qualify directly for the Table of 64, as is currently the case.

Second, removing the protection currently provided by the FIE World Ranking is inconsistent with the approach adopted in other major individual sports. Tennis, table tennis, judo and taekwondo all use ranking-based seeding to separate the strongest competitors and prevent them from meeting too early in the competition. Seeding rewards consistency, preserves the value of the world ranking and helps create a balanced and understandable draw. The FIE should therefore retain a clear seeding mechanism based on its World Ranking.

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**Proposal 12**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.89**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by FIE' rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to list all zonals in article below.

***D. MIXED FORMULA B – JUNIOR AND CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, CADET WORLD CUPS, JUNIOR WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.***

**Mixed Formula B**

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 13**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.92**

**Motivation:** All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

**o.92**

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modification in green.

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be ~~30~~ 25%.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 14**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.98, o.100**

**Motivation:** The Senior and Junior World Cups bring together a very large number of participants. With the current format, the competition has become increasingly difficult to manage due to the growing number of registered athletes. No other sport offers such a long competition format in a single day.

This situation results in significant physical and mental fatigue for the athletes, increased pressure on coaches and officials, an excessive workload for event organizers, and considerable fatigue for referees, whose concentration must remain at the highest level throughout the entire event.

Furthermore, such an extended format greatly reduces media appeal. No media outlet, journalist, photographer, or television broadcaster can reasonably cover a continuous competition lasting 9 to 12 hours. This limits international visibility and hinders the development of the discipline.

For all these reasons, we propose that the Senior and Junior World Cups adopt a full direct elimination format.

This system would allow for a significant reduction in the overall duration of the competition, better clarity for the public and the media, increased sporting intensity in every round, more efficient and professional organization, and improved working conditions for referees and officials.

This reform would make the competition more dynamic, more attractive, and better aligned with modern international sporting standards.

***TEAM COMPETITIONS***

***A. JUNIOR, SENIOR ~~AND JUNIOR~~ WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS***

**o.98**

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex b).

**2** At the Junior, ~~and~~ Senior World Championships **and Zonal Championships** the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

**3** **At the Junior ,Senior, ~~and~~ ~~Junior~~ World Championships and Zonal Championships,** all places in the table up to 16th place are fought for. From 17th place onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**o.100**

~~Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, Senior World Championships and Zonal Championships respectively.~~

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex A).

**2** At the Junior and Senior World Cup the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

3 **At the Junior and Senior World Cup, the competition format is direct elimination** onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** The PCM Commission is challenging this proposal. Team World Cups must also provide opportunities for progress and development, particularly for nations where fencing is less established. Classification matches allow these teams to gain valuable international experience, fence against opponents of a comparable level and continue improving throughout the competition. Under a straight knockout format, a developing team could be eliminated after only one match, which would considerably reduce the sporting and developmental value of its participation. We would therefore retain classification matches for teams competing for places 17 to 32.

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**Proposal 16**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.108**

**Motivation:** Related to the addition of Cadet Zonal Championships.

**Official FIE individual ranking**

**o.108 1**

**1 Principles**

**c) The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships and the Zonal Championships

**o.108 2**

**2 Scale of points**

**c)** Points obtained in ~~a~~ **Grand Prix** and ~~a~~ individual Zonal Championships ~~competition~~ of the FIE (cadet, junior and senior) are multiplied by a factor of 1.5.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 18**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.119**

**(Urgent decision) For Team competition Veterans World Championship 2026 for to use the new formula in next Veterans World Championship in Tbilisi 2026**

**o.119**

1 Participation
Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon.

2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is ~~45 hits relay~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** In favour

**Proposals for the 2026 Congress**

**Modifications of the Technical Rules**

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 27**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.64**

**Motivation:** The place inside the Piste Enclosure is for the referees working zone and must be free of foreign objects.

**t.64**

7. No recording devices placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the addition of the text in green.

**t.64**

7. No recording devices are placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** The PCM Commission understands the need to keep the Piste Enclosure clear and to preserve safe working conditions for referees. However, the rule should include a formal process for requesting and granting exemptions. This would allow the FIE or the event organiser to authorise recording equipment for an official broadcaster or a major media outlet wishing to promote the event by following a particular athlete or team, or by covering the event as a whole. Any exemption should be subject to strict safety and operational conditions, ensuring that the equipment does not obstruct the referees, interfere with the competition or create any risk for participants. Without such a process, the FIE could unnecessarily deprive an event of valuable media exposure and promotional opportunities.

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**Proposal 32**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.124**

**Motivation:** The current P-card rule has not had a positive effect on fencers' behavior on the piste, particularly in épée. One minute is too long to wait before sanctioning passivity with a P-card, and it does not encourage fencers to be more offensive or to engage more actively in the bout.

In other combat sports, such as judo, if an athlete refuses to engage for 20 to 30 seconds, they are penalized with a yellow card. This rule creates a more dynamic rhythm and forces competitors to take initiative.

Therefore, reducing the passivity time to 30 seconds could encourage fencers to adopt a more offensive attitude and engage more quickly in the bout**. The P-card should be use starting with the pools.**

**(Non-combativity)**

**t.124**

**Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)**

There is unwillingness to fight when there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of unwillingness to fight, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!' as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

**1 Individual events ~~– Direct elimination~~**

~~P-yellow cards and~~ P-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1~~.c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P ~~-yellow-~~**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both fencers with~~ a P~~-red~~ **black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

ii) If the scores of the two fencers are not equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower score with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

**2 Team events**

~~P-yellow ,~~ P-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2~~.c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P~~-yellow-~~**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both teams with~~ a P-~~red~~ **Black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores for the two teams are equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, with a P-Black card. The team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

ii) If the scores for the two teams are not equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-Black card. The team with the higher score wins the match.

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all 9 relays) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at 44-44.

b) In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.

c) In both individual and team competitions, the period/relay continues after the awarding of a ~~P-yellow or~~ P-Red card.

d) The ~~minute~~ **30 Seconds** starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled, each penalty hit and at the beginning of each period or relay.

e) The referee must record these ~~P-yellow,~~ P-red and P-black cards separately on the score sheet. The sanctions awarded for unwillingness to fight are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.

f) In both individual and team competitions, if, at the end of the regulation time, there is equality of scores, article t.124 does not apply and articles t.40.3 and t.41.5 will apply.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** The PCM Commission is challenging this proposal because it is likely to create a perverse tactical incentive, particularly in épée, but also in foil. When the scores are level, the higher-seeded fencer knows that, if the second period of non-combativity is reached, the lower-seeded opponent will receive a P-Black card and lose the bout. The higher-seeded fencer therefore has no incentive to take risks, create actions or initiate attacks, either from the beginning of the bout or whenever the score becomes level again.

The proposed 30-second period is too short, particularly in épée, where constructing an action, assessing distance and preparing an attack may require more time. The higher-seeded fencer could rationally adopt a defensive strategy and wait, while the lower-seeded opponent would be forced to attack and accept all the associated risks.

Instead of encouraging both fencers to be more active, this rule would assign them stereotyped roles from the outset: the higher-seeded fencer would defend, while the opponent would be forced to attack. This would reduce tactical freedom and creativity, make bouts more predictable and one-sided, and could produce repetitive and sanitised fencing with far less appeal for spectators, broadcasters and

the media. A rule intended to combat passivity would therefore risk rewarding passive behaviour and undermining the objective of making fencing more dynamic and attractive.

For these reasons, both the reduction of the non-combativity period to 30 seconds and the use of initial seeding to determine the recipient of the P-Black card when the scores are level should be reconsidered.

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Publicity Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 118**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: p.12**

**Motivation:** Add clarity to p12.2 and format language versions. Article p12.2 has confusing language and inconsistent formatting between the versions. Adopting the Spanish format and clarifying language would make this more easily understood.

**p.12** Advertising which is worn or carried

2. Fencing clothing and equipment

a) If a federation and/or a fencer have signed a sponsorship contract with a commercial or other company, the logo of that sponsorship partner may be fixed at a rate of maximum of 3 logos, with a maximum area of 85 cm2 each;

In foil and epee: at the top of the sleeve of the non-sword arm of the fencing jacket; in sabre: at the top of the thigh of the non-sword side of the fencing breeches and clearly separated from the national logo.

- on the socks;

- on the glove, a maximum of one logo of 30 cm2 , printed on the cuff, (attachment by sewing and gluing is not allowed);

- on the collarbones, a maximum of two logos, one each side, with a maximum area of 50cm2 each;

- on the collar of the fencing jacket or electric fencing jacket, a maximum of one logo with a maximum area of 30 cm2 ;

- on the back, a maximum of one logo, below the nationality code, with a maximum area of 250 cm2 .

The sponsor's logo may be displayed on each side of the mask. Maximum size: 100 cm2 on each side of the mask.

~~a)~~ b) A fencer may not display more than ten such logos in total.

**Opinion of the PCM Commission:** In favor.

# FIE PCM COMMISSION

## Activity Report and Strategic Plan

### Promoting and Modernising Fencing Towards Los Angeles 2028

**Period:** 2025–2026
**Strategic Horizon:** 2026–Los Angeles 2028

## 1. Executive Summary

During the recent work of the FIE PCM Commission, substantial progress has been made on a number of projects aimed at modernising fencing, improving its visibility and attractiveness, strengthening the spectator experience, and making the sport easier to understand for new audiences.
The Commission's work has focused on two complementary objectives:

- **Improving the product of fencing itself**, including rules, presentation, identification and competition formats.
- **Improving the way fencing is presented to the public**, particularly through television, digital media, live entertainment and stronger visual communication.

Among the principal areas of work have been the development of the FIE Handbook, the examination of innovative competition concepts, proposals for improving athlete identification, national identification on fencing uniforms, and proposals designed to make the emotional dimension of fencing more visible to spectators.
The Commission has also supported and examined innovative projects such as **The New Priority Masters**, which provides a practical laboratory for testing a new approach to épée, combining sporting innovation, technology, entertainment and spectator engagement.
The next phase should transform these individual initiatives into a coherent **FIE promotion strategy leading towards Los Angeles 2028**, with particular emphasis on simplicity, emotion, personalities, visual identity, digital content, broadcast presentation and youth engagement.

# 2. Work Completed by the PCM Commission

## 2.1 FIE Handbook

One of the Commission's principal areas of work has been the development and review of the **FIE Handbook**.

The objective is to provide a clearer and more useful framework for the organisation and presentation of fencing, while helping federations, organisers and stakeholders understand the FIE's standards, expectations and opportunities.
The work has contributed to a broader reflection on how fencing can be presented in a modern and consistent manner across international competitions.

**Main objectives**

- Improve consistency across FIE competitions.
- Provide clearer guidance to organisers and federations.
- Improve the presentation of fencing to spectators and media.
- Support the modernisation of the fencing product.
- Establish practical tools that can be used by federations and organisers.

# 3. Innovation in Competition — The New Priority Masters

The Commission has worked on the concept of **The New Priority Masters**, an innovative elite épée event designed as a laboratory for the future development of fencing.
The project brings together world-class athletes and combines sporting innovation with modern entertainment and technology.

**Main objectives**

- Test a new approach to reducing non-combativity in épée.
- Increase the intensity and tactical clarity of the bout.
- Make the competition easier for spectators to understand.
- Create a more dynamic television and live-event product.
- Test new technological solutions for displaying priority.
- Combine elite sport with entertainment and audience engagement.

The event is particularly important because it provides an opportunity to test innovation in a real competition environment rather than discussing it only theoretically.

## 3.1 Dynamic Priority Rule

A new 30-second dynamic priority system has been developed for testing.
Its principal features include:

- Priority is allocated at the beginning of each round.
- A validated touch resets the 30-second cycle and changes priority.

- A double touch also triggers the reset and change of priority.
- An annulled touch does not reset the timer.
- If no valid touch occurs during the 30-second cycle, one point is awarded to the priority holder.
- Priority is retained after the passivity point.
- When less than 30 seconds remain in the round, the remaining time is completed under the traditional rules.

The objective is to create greater continuous action while preserving tactical depth.
The Masters should therefore be considered a **test laboratory**, with the results, athlete feedback, referee experience, technical performance and spectator reaction evaluated before any consideration of wider implementation.

# 4. Technology and Spectator Experience

The Commission has also explored ways to use technology to make fencing more immediately understandable.
Key developments include:

- LED mask technology showing which athlete has priority.
- New scoring-box and timer solutions.
- Visual communication of priority to spectators.
- Improved presentation of tactical information.
- Development of a more modern central piste environment.

These initiatives address one of fencing's principal challenges: **the action can be extremely sophisticated for experts while remaining difficult to understand for a first-time spectator.**
The objective is therefore to make the important information visible without changing the essence of the sport.

# 5. Partnerships and Event Development

Strategic cooperation with equipment and technology partners has been an important part of the work.
In particular, cooperation with **Prieur, Allstar and Kabcom** has supported:

- Equipment and promotional initiatives.
- Development of innovative mask lighting.
- Scoring and timing technology.
- Central-piste infrastructure.

- Improved visual presentation.

These partnerships demonstrate the potential for the FIE and its partners to develop new solutions that can subsequently benefit the wider sport.

# 6. Athlete Identification — Name on the Mask

The Commission has developed a proposal allowing an athlete's competition name to be displayed on the **upper mesh of the fencing mask**.
The proposal is designed to improve athlete recognition for:

- Spectators.
- Television viewers.
- Photographers.
- Digital audiences.
- New fans who are discovering fencing.

The proposal maintains clear areas on both sides of the mask for national identification and establishes technical requirements concerning size, placement, visibility, safety and content.

**Key principle**

The athlete's name should be:

- Optional.
- Identical to the name on the back of the jacket.
- Located only on the upper central mesh.
- Clearly separated from national identification.
- Non-commercial and free from political or other messaging.
- Compatible with all safety and equipment-control requirements.

This is a relatively simple visual innovation with potentially significant benefits for television and digital media.

# 7. National Identification on Fencing Uniforms

The Commission has also developed proposed FIE Guidelines for **National Identification Marks on Fencing Uniforms**.

The objective is to make the nationality of each fencer immediately recognisable during competition.
The proposal focuses particularly on:

- Mandatory national identification on both legs of the breeches.
- Optional identification on the non-weapon arm.
- Standardised dimensions.
- Strong visual contrast.
- Clear FIE country codes or country names.
- Consistency among athletes from the same federation.
- Separation from sponsors and commercial markings.
- Safety and equipment-control requirements.

This proposal responds directly to the need to make fencing easier to follow in wide television shots and in live venues.
The underlying philosophy is simple:
**The spectator should know immediately who is fencing and for which country.**

# 8. Making the Emotional Moment Visible

Another major proposal developed by the Commission concerns the introduction of a **controlled 30-second emotional and celebration sequence** following a potential final hit.
The objective is to address one of fencing's major visual limitations: the athlete's face is normally hidden by the mask during the most emotionally important moment of the competition.
The proposal would apply from the Table of 8 onwards in individual and team events.

## Main principles

- The Referee calls "Halt!" after the potential decisive action.
- A maximum 30-second emotional window may follow.
- Athletes may express their immediate emotion.
- Athletes remain under the Referee's control and within the field of play.
- No protest or attempt to influence the Referee is permitted.
- The Referee retains the authority to end the period earlier.
- The decision is then announced.
- The salute and handshake/courtesy protocol are preserved.
- The winner may celebrate more freely only after the bout has officially ended.

The proposal seeks to preserve the integrity and authority of fencing while making the human story of victory and defeat much more visible.

This could have significant value for television, social media and short-form digital content.

# 9. Communication and Stakeholder Consultation

The Commission's work has also involved preparing and distributing proposals to relevant FIE stakeholders, including:

- FIE Staff.
- FIE Executive Committee members.
- PCM Commission members.
- Coaching representatives.
- Refereeing representatives.
- Legal representatives.
- Rules representatives.
- Other technical and sporting stakeholders.

This consultation approach is essential because many of the proposed innovations require coordination between sporting, technical, legal, refereeing, equipment and communication departments.

# 10. Overall Assessment of the Work

The work undertaken by the PCM Commission can be grouped into five major areas:

### 1. Modernising the rules

Testing new approaches that can increase action, reduce non-combativity and improve the sporting narrative.

### 2. Improving visual communication

Making names, nationalities, scores, priority and decisive moments easier to understand.

### 3. Improving the spectator experience

Creating a faster, more emotional and more entertaining competition environment.

### 4. Using technology

Applying technology to scoring, timing, visual presentation and athlete identification.

### 5. Building the future image of fencing

Moving fencing towards a sport that is easier to understand, easier to follow and more attractive to young audiences and international media.

# 11. Strategic Vision — Fencing Towards Los Angeles 2028

The next stage should be to move from **individual innovations to one integrated promotion strategy for fencing**.
Los Angeles 2028 provides a clear strategic deadline.
The objective should not simply be to promote fencing during the Olympic Games. The objective should be to use the period leading to Los Angeles 2028 to build a larger and more modern fencing audience.

## Strategic Objective

**"Make fencing easier to understand, easier to watch, easier to share and easier to love."**
This should become the central communication philosophy.

# 12. Priority Areas for 2026–2028

## 12.1 Make the Athletes the Heroes

Fencing needs to communicate the personalities behind the masks.
The FIE should develop a stronger athlete-centred communication strategy.
Potential content includes:

- Athlete profiles.
- Short personal stories.
- Training videos.
- Rivalries.
- Behind-the-scenes material.
- "Road to LA 2028" stories.
- Athlete challenges.
- Personality-driven interviews.
- Historical rivalries and legends.
- Young athletes to watch.

The public should not only know the country of a fencer; they should know **who the person is**.

# 13. Create a "Road to LA 2028" Fencing Campaign

A unified campaign should be developed across the FIE's digital and communication platforms.
Possible identity:
**ROAD TO LA 2028 — FENCING**
The campaign could begin immediately and continue through the Olympic qualification period.
It should tell one continuous story:
**2026 — Discover Fencing**
**2027 — Follow the Champions**
**2028 — Road to Los Angeles**
**Los Angeles 2028 — The World Watches Fencing**
This would provide continuity instead of treating every competition as an isolated event.

# 14. Make Fencing Understandable in 30 Seconds

One of the Commission's most important strategic objectives should be to explain fencing to someone who has never watched it.
Develop a series of very short videos:

- "What is a double?"
- "What is priority?"
- "What is right-of-way?"
- "Why did the referee stop the action?"
- "What is a video review?"
- "How does the scoreboard work?"
- "How do team matches work?"
- "Why do fencers salute?"
- "What happens after a final hit?"

The rule should be:
**If a new spectator cannot understand it quickly, explain it visually.**
This can be particularly powerful on TikTok, Instagram, YouTube Shorts and other short-form platforms.

# 15. Create a Strong Visual Identity for Fencing

The sport needs to become immediately recognisable.
The Commission's work on:

- Mask names.
- National identification.
- LED technology.
- Priority indicators.
- Central piste presentation.
- Athlete introductions.

should be integrated into one visual identity.
The spectator should immediately recognise:
**Fencing = speed + precision + personality + emotion + technology.**

# 16. Transform Major Competitions into Events

The objective should be to move beyond the concept of a fencing tournament and create a complete spectator experience.
Major events could incorporate:

- Music.
- Athlete introductions.
- Dynamic lighting.
- Large screens.
- Live statistics.
- Athlete profiles.
- Interactive audience activities.
- Demonstrations.
- Youth activities.
- Fencing history.
- Celebrity challenges.
- School programmes.
- Fan zones.

The **New Priority Masters** can serve as an important laboratory for this approach.

# 17. Digital and Social Media Strategy

A dedicated content strategy should be established rather than relying primarily on competition results.
A potential weekly structure could include:

- **Monday — Champion of the Week**
- **Tuesday — Learn Fencing**
- **Wednesday — Behind the Mask**
- **Thursday — Rivalry / History**
- **Friday — Best Touch**
- **Saturday — Competition Day**
- **Sunday — Best Moments**

Short, visually strong content should be prioritised.
The aim is not simply to publish more content, but to produce content that people who are **not already fencing fans** will want to watch and share.

# 18. Youth and New Audiences

Young audiences should be at the centre of the strategy.
Potential initiatives include:

- School fencing discovery programmes.
- University challenges.
- "Try Fencing" events.
- Fencing simulators and digital experiences.
- Athlete visits to schools.
- Social-media challenges.
- Youth ambassadors.
- Esports/digital collaborations where appropriate.
- Short-form educational content.

The message should be that fencing is not only a traditional Olympic sport; it is a modern sport of **speed, intelligence, courage and personality**.

# 19. Broadcaster Strategy

The FIE should work with broadcasters to improve the storytelling around fencing.
The television product should increasingly provide:

- Athlete names.
- Nationality.
- Live score.
- Time remaining.
- Priority information where applicable.
- Simple explanations of rules.
- Key statistics.
- Head-to-head records.
- Athlete rankings.
- Storylines and rivalries.
- Slow-motion replays.
- Emotional reaction shots after decisive moments.

The viewer should never have to ask:
**"Who is winning?"**
or
**"Why did the referee give that point?"**

# 20. The Olympic Build-Up

The period immediately before Los Angeles 2028 should become the climax of a multi-year campaign.

### 2026 — Innovation and Discovery

- Test new competition concepts.
- Test spectator technology.
- Develop visual identity.
- Begin "Road to LA 2028".
- Increase athlete storytelling.
- Establish standard digital content formats.

### 2027 — Expansion and Engagement

- Increase international promotion.
- Develop national federation communication toolkits.
- Build youth campaigns.
- Promote major rivalries.
- Expand broadcaster partnerships.
- Create global fencing challenges.
- Build anticipation around Olympic qualification.

**2028 — The Olympic Year**

- "Road to LA" becomes the central campaign.
- Introduce the Olympic contenders to the public.
- Produce athlete stories before the Games.
- Explain the rules to new audiences.
- Create daily Olympic fencing content.
- Maximise short-form video.
- Highlight personalities and national stories.
- Build a strong post-Olympic conversion strategy to retain new fans.

# 21. Legacy After Los Angeles 2028

The Olympic Games should not be considered the end of the campaign.
The objective should be to convert Olympic exposure into:

- More children trying fencing.
- More spectators attending competitions.
- More followers on FIE platforms.
- Greater television audiences.
- Increased media coverage.
- Stronger commercial opportunities.
- More attractive international competitions.
- Stronger national federation communication.
- Greater participation worldwide.

The question should therefore be:
**"How do we make the person who discovers fencing in Los Angeles 2028 become a fencing fan for life?"**

# 22. Proposed PCM Commission Priorities

For the coming period, the Commission should concentrate on a limited number of high-impact priorities:

1. **Finalise and develop the FIE Handbook.**
2. **Evaluate the New Priority Masters and its experimental rule.**
3. **Continue developing athlete identification on masks.**
4. **Develop standardised national identification on fencing uniforms.**
5. **Evaluate the 30-second emotional celebration proposal.**

6. **Develop a unified visual presentation of fencing competitions.**
7. **Create the Road to Los Angeles 2028 campaign.**
8. **Strengthen athlete-centred storytelling.**
9. **Develop short-form educational and entertainment content.**
10. **Work with broadcasters to make fencing easier to understand.**
11. **Develop youth and school engagement programmes.**
12. **Establish measurable objectives and indicators for the promotion of fencing.**

# 23. Proposed Key Performance Indicators

The success of the strategy should be measured.
Possible indicators include:

- Growth of FIE digital followers.
- Video views and completion rates.
- Engagement rate.
- Number of new fencing audiences reached.
- Television audience figures.
- Competition attendance.
- Number of youth participants in discovery programmes.
- Media coverage.
- Athlete content engagement.
- Number of national federations adopting communication initiatives.
- Commercial and sponsorship interest.
- Public understanding of basic fencing rules.

The Commission should review these indicators regularly rather than waiting until Los Angeles 2028.

# 24. Conclusion

The work undertaken by the PCM Commission represents an important step towards a more modern and accessible form of fencing.
The projects developed during this period share a common objective: **to preserve the identity and integrity of fencing while making the sport more understandable, more emotional, more visual and more attractive to the modern spectator.**
The work on the FIE Handbook, competition innovation, dynamic priority, technology, athlete identification, national identification, emotional celebration and event presentation should therefore not be considered as separate initiatives.
Together, they form the foundation of a broader transformation.

The period leading to Los Angeles 2028 provides a unique opportunity.
The FIE should use these next two years to demonstrate that fencing can remain faithful to its history while presenting itself in a way that speaks to today's audiences and tomorrow's fans.

## The ambition should be clear:

**From the piste to the screen.**
**From the athlete to the fan.**
**From tradition to innovation.**
**From today's audience to the next generation.**
**And from now to Los Angeles 2028.**
**The objective is not simply to promote fencing at the Olympic Games.**
**The objective is to make the world want to watch fencing before, during and after Los Angeles 2028.**

# REPORT OF THE REFEREEING COMMISSION

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 58**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** Limitation of alternative activities in fencing for members of the FIE Refereeing Commission must cover not only National but also international positions, including coaching.

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must:

• be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
• be a current member or have been a member for at least two mandates of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in at least two weapons in at least two (2) of the 4 fencing seasons (1 September to 31 August) preceding his candidature; and• have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of eight or semi-final or final of the individual or team event of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his candidature,

Being a member of the Refereeing Commission is incompatible with the national or international roles of technical director, referee, coach, chief of delegation and team captain. Once elected, the Refereeing Commission member shall send to the FIE head-office a letter of commitment signed by both the Refereeing Commission member and his/her national federation.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.4**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.4.4 If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~3~~ 4 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the ~~3~~ 4 candidates of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~7~~ 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.
If no candidate of one of the genders has been nominated, the 10 candidates ~~of different nationalities~~ of the other gender with the greatest number of votes are elected.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates of such gender put forward who have received at least one vote and the remainder of the Commission will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

If there are fewer than 10 candidates for a Commission then the Commission will consist of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission then the members of the Commission whose term had just ended shall hold over for the following year until new candidates can be presented and an election is held for that Commission at the following Congress.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

REPORT OF THE REFEREEING COMMISSION

# Proposals for the 2026 Congress

# Modifications of the Organisation Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

## Proposal 6

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles o.41, o.99, t.41, t.124**

**Motivation:** We considered how to make team matches shorter and more dynamic, with increased suspense through greater individual responsibility for each fencer. The objective is to create a format that is more attractive for television and digital broadcasting, easier to understand for spectators, and overall more dynamic and spectacular in presentation.

The proposal consists of modifying the current team competition format by introducing a set-based system, according to the following rules:

Each match would be contested as a best-of-three sets (two sets required to win).

Each set would be fenced to 15 touches using the relay format (5–10–15).

The team that wins two sets wins the match.

If each team wins one set, a decisive third set would be fenced to 15 touches.

Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).

Each team would consist of three fencers, with one optional substitute.

Each set would be fenced independently, with the score reset to 0–0 at the start of each set.

Touches would not carry over from one set to another.

Each coach would have one 30-second time-out available per match.

**o.41**

**2 Principles**

c) The matches proceed according to the **2 winning sets** ~~**team-relay**~~ **formula**, as provided for in Article o.99 of these Rules.

**o.99**

The **formula** for the competition is as follows.

**1** The **relay formula 2 winning sets** applies to all weapons.

**2** The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team (~~9~~ **relay bouts). In 2 winning sets, in case of a tie a 3rd decisive set will be fence.**

**3** The bouts of each **set** match have to be fought in the following **order**:

~~3–6 2–5~~
~~1–5 1–4~~
~~2–4 2–6~~
~~1–6 3–5~~
~~3–4~~

| 1St Set | 2nd Set | 3rd Set |
|---|---|---|
| 3–6 | 2–5 | 1–4 |
| 1–5 | 3–4 | 2–6 |
| 2–4 | 1–6 | 3–5 |

If this order is **altered**, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

**4** **The position of each team on the match score-sheet** is decided by drawing lots. **The order of the individual fencers** is then decided by the team captains.

**5**

**d) Each team captain has one 30-second timeout that can be used during the entire match**

**t.124**

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all ~~9 relays~~ **set**) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts, at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at ~~44-44~~ 14-14 in each set.

**t.41**

**1** Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of **five hits** (5, 10, 15~~, 20, etc~~.), ~~Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5, 10, 15 etc. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted;~~ the maximum time for each bout is **3 minutes**.

2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.
**The two opponents in the 3rd relay shoot up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3 minutes.**

3 If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

4 **The winning team** is that which first reaches **2 winning sets** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time.~~
**In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 minutes each.**

5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

- For team Junior competition (season 2027/2028)
- For team Senior competition after LA 2028 (season 2028/2029)

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:**

**Decision of Proposal 6 should be postponed. Recommendation: organise working group and a testing events during the junior team competition in 2027/2028 season; check FIE Technical and Organisation rules with working group to make sure that all necessary requirements for the new formula of the team competition are covered (substitution, break between sets, etc.)**

**o.99.3 QUESTIONS:**

- Number 2 finished 1st set and starts the 2nd set, Number 1 finished 2nd set and starts the 3rd set. How many minutes of break should have a fencer?

- If order of the bouts altered, is o.99.3 still possible to apply?

**Article t.41.1** not in favor, exception for a penalty hit in set should retain as below:

1 Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay **in set** ~~match~~ consists of **five hits** (5, 10, **and** 15~~, 20, etc~~.), Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5,**or** 10~~, 15 etc.~~ if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted; the maximum time for each bout is **3 minutes**.

**Article t.41 2-5 change of excretions**

2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and ~~so on with~~ **next opponents of the 3rd relay fence** successive bouts **until score has reached fifteen, within the time limit of 3 minutes**, cumulatively, of five hits.

3 If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.
~~**The two opponents in the 3rd relay shoot up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3 minutes**~~

4 **The winning team** is that which ~~first reaches~~ **won 2 ~~winning~~ sets in the team match** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time~~**.**
~~**In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 minutes each.**~~ **Irilevant as it is written that the winning team must win 2 sets.**

5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the ~~match~~ **set**. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

**Article o.99 2** Modification as below for more clear expression

**0.99 2**
The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team **until 2 winning sets** (~~9~~ **3 relay bouts per set)**

**Questions to motivation**: Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes). ???

**Would the team matches shorter?**

**- In case of three sets with possible additional minute in case of equal score in each set?**

**- With breaks between sets?**

**- With No P-card (yellow, red or black) in team matches at 14-14 in each set if in the 3rd bout of a set after one minute fencers reach score 14-14 and continue 2 minutes without valid hit and then get additional one minute for the decisive hit?**

**Each set would be fenced independently, with the score reset to 0–0 at the start of each set.**

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**Proposal 10**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.62**

**Motivation:** In recent years, the number of participants in Senior individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased significantly, which results in extremely long competition days and increased logistical pressure on organizers, referees, athletes and officials. The excessive duration of competitions affects the quality of the event, athlete performance conditions and the overall efficiency of the competition schedule. It also increases organizational costs and operational complexity for host federations.

For the majority of National Federations, which typically enter between 1 and 6 athletes, the introduction of an 8-fencer limit would not restrict their participation. On the contrary, it would create a more balanced competition environment.

**o.62**

**1** For **Grand Prix competitions and Senior Individual World Cup competitions**, ~~Cadet, Junior and Senior, Senior and Junior,~~ at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of ~~12~~ 8 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**2** ~~For **Individual World Cup competitions outside Europe**, the organising country may enter up to 30 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.~~ For **Cadet and Junior Individual World Cup competitions**, at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of 12 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** not in favour o.62.1, however, if the number should be reduced, Refereeing Commission proposes to reduce to 10 fencers from each National Federation.

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**Proposal 13**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.92**

**Motivation:** All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

**o.92**

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 14**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.98, o.100**

**Motivation:** The Senior and Junior World Cups bring together a very large number of participants. With the current format, the competition has become increasingly difficult to manage due to the growing number of registered athletes. No other sport offers such a long competition format in a single day.

This situation results in significant physical and mental fatigue for the athletes, increased pressure on coaches and officials, an excessive workload for event organizers, and considerable fatigue for referees, whose concentration must remain at the highest level throughout the entire event.

Furthermore, such an extended format greatly reduces media appeal. No media outlet, journalist, photographer, or television broadcaster can reasonably cover a continuous competition lasting 9 to 12 hours. This limits international visibility and hinders the development of the discipline.

For all these reasons, we propose that the Senior and Junior World Cups adopt a full direct elimination format.

This system would allow for a significant reduction in the overall duration of the competition, better clarity for the public and the media, increased sporting intensity in every round, more efficient and professional organization, and improved working conditions for referees and officials.

This reform would make the competition more dynamic, more attractive, and better aligned with modern international sporting standards.

***TEAM COMPETITIONS***

***A. JUNIOR, SENIOR ~~AND JUNIOR~~ WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS***

**o.98**

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex b).

**2** At the Junior, ~~and~~ Senior World Championships **and Zonal Championships** the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

**3** **At the Junior ,Senior, ~~and~~ ~~Junior~~ World Championships and Zonal Championships,** all places in the table up to 16th place are fought for. From 17th place onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**o.100**

~~Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, Senior World Championships and Zonal Championships respectively.~~

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex A).

**2** At the Junior and Senior World Cup the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

3 **At the Junior and Senior World Cup, the competition format is direct elimination** onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** Not in favour, as each point is important for OG qualification, the competitions would be more dynamic and more attractive, because more fencing matches will be presented for spectators, possibility for teams to fence more and more work for referees to get experience and practise.

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**Proposal 18**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.119**

**(Urgent decision) For Team competition Veterans World Championship 2026 for to use the new formula in next Veterans World Championship in Tbilisi 2026**

**o.119**

1 Participation

Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon.

2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is ~~45 hits relay~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** cannot used in Tbilisi, it should be approved by FIE Congress

**Proposals for the 2026 Congress**

**Modifications of the Technical Rules**

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 20**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.9.1**

**Motivation:** In definition of attack is only explanation concerning movement of the arm, but nothing about moving forward the feet, extending arm on the spot or with step back could be considered as an attack according to the existing t.9.1.

**t.9.1**

The **attack** is the initial offensive action ~~made~~ of non-stop movement forward, started by extending the arm and continuously threatening the opponent's target, preceding the launching of the lunge or fleche (cf. t.83, t.84, t.85 and t.101ss).

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** in favour

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**Proposal 21**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.22, t.170 1.13)**

**Motivation:** To add clarity and consistency for the commonly given penalty of "false starts"

The penalty for the "false start" it is not explicated stated in the rulebook. It is most consistently given in sabre but is less consistently given in foil and epee. By explicitly stating this as a rule, ambiguity and inconsistency is removed, and it will be more evenly applied and easily understood and expected by all.

**t.22**

**12.** The fencers must come on guard correctly and remain completely still until the command 'Play!' is given by the Referee. **A fencer who does not remain still or who initiates an action before**

**the command "Play" commits an offense in the 1st group and will be penalized in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.**

**t.170**

1st group

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.13 | Refusal to obey the Referee, **False Start** | t.108, t.112, **t.22.12** | Yellow | Red | Red |

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:**

**in favour for text in t.22, however, to add in t.170 in current empty 1.11 and wording as in t.22**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.10 | At foil and épée, bending, dragging weapon point on conductive piste | **t.76.2, t.90.2** | YELLOW | RED | RED |
| 1.11 | **Start before the command "Play"** | **t.22.12** | | | |
| 1.12 | At sabre, hit made with the guard *, any forward movement crossing the legs or feet * | **t.96.3, t.101.5** | | | |

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**Proposal 22**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.27**

**Motivation:** To make clear that hit before "Halt!" should be awarded.

**t.27**

2 It is forbidden to turn one's back on one's opponent during the bout. Should such an offence occur, the Referee will penalise the fencer at fault as specified in articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled, however, the hit of the opponent before the Referee called 'Halt!' is valid.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 23**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.34**

**Motivation:** To keep the same terminology like in t.22.10

**t.34**

Should a competitor cross the rear limit of the piste completely- i.e. with both feet — a technical hit will be ~~scored~~ awarded against him.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 24**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.35, t.170 2.7)**

**Motivation:** As nowadays leaving the piste to avoid being hit has become a tactic and it should be penalised with “Red Card”.

**t.35**

3 A competitor who crosses **intentionally** one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with **one or** both feet — e.g. when making a flèche **or to stop his opponent’s attack** — to avoid being hit will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158 -~~162, t.165~~, **t. 166**, t.170, for the offences of the ~~1st~~ 2nd group. Any hit made by the offending fencer is annulled.

**t.170**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2.7 | Crossing lateral boundary of the piste to avoid being hit **(*)** | **t.35.3** | Red | Red | Red |

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 25**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.39**

**Motivation:** There is no requirements to name a person’s name before the bout, but the person on the piste should be accredited.

**t.39**

2 During the one-minute rests, an accredited person ~~named before the bout~~, may have access to the fencer.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 26**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.62**

**Motivation:** To avoid unnecessary repetitions and have the regulations in case of the technical problems if a video is not available. Cf. articles t.62.2, t.61.1-2, t.62.3, t.62.4.

**t.62**

1 There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.

2 At all weapons and at any time, the referee on her/his own initiative may consult his monitor before making a decision.

3 If the fencers' scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision.

4 The video-referee may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

5 Once the referee, together with the video-referee, has analysed the action, ~~whether it is:~~
~~at the referee's initiative~~
~~at the request of the athlete~~
~~in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit~~
~~at the video-referee's request~~

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.

6 Each time the referee consults the video, ~~whether on his own initiative, following an appeal or at the suggestion of the video-referee~~, the opinions of the referee and the video-referee must be recorded on the match sheet.

7 In case of technical problems if a video is not available:

- once the referee has made a decision on the piste, that decision cannot be changed
- if no decision has been made, the Referee abstains
- it is up to the referee to make the final decision regarding a decisive hit

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 27**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.64**

**Motivation:** The place inside the Piste Enclosure is for the referees working zone and must be free of foreign objects.

**t.64**

7. No recording devices placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 28**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.71**

**Motivation:** To correct penalties for offences with clothing and equipment which does not conform with the Rules. For example, missing a control mark is a 2nd group, missing logo is elimination from the competition and not correct size is a 1st group of penalties as well as to make clear what should happen after 5 minutes if a fencer has no regular equipment.

**t.71**

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only one regulation weapon (cf. t.114, 115); or
- with only one regulation bodywire; or
- with only one regulation mask wire, or
- with a weapon or a bodywire which does not work, or which does not conform with the Rules; or
- without his protective under-plastron (cf. t.64.5); or
- with a conductive jacket which does not fully cover the valid target; or
- with a mask whose 2nd security device is not securely fixed to the body of the mask; or
- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.) ;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in ~~Articles t.158-162, t.165,~~ t.170~~, for the offences of the 1st group~~ and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes; otherwise, the fencer will be excluded from the competition.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 30**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.72**

**Motivation:** The fencer should not be penalized if the condition of the equipment changed during the bout in case a fencer does not notice this because he was focused on the next action.

**t.72**

When during a bout an irregularity is found in the equipment which could be caused by conditions **during** the bout:

Examples:

- conductive jacket with holes in which hits are registered as non-valid,
- weapon or bodywire no longer functioning,
- pressure of the spring in the point too weak,
- the travel in the point no longer regulation,
- a curve of the blade exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4)
- presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device.

the Referee will apply neither warning nor penalty and any hit scored with the equipment which has become defective will be awarded.

~~However, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose weapon, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, has a curve of the blade which exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4) commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.~~

~~Similarly, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose mask, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device (cf. m.25.7.f), commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with articles t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170.~~

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 31**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.73**

**Motivation:** Update t.73 for consistency with penalty chart and proper guidance. Article t.73.1 specifies penalties for offenses a-c and e-g but not for t.73.1.d (included in the penalty chart as a group 4 penalty).

**t.73**

**1** g) is equipped with electronic communication equipment permitting a person off the piste to communicate with the fencer during the bout;

then, in cases c), d), e), f) and g) above, the Referee must immediately confiscate the equipment (weapon, bodywire, if necessary conductive jacket, mask, protective under-plastron, breeches, etc.), and have it examined by the expert on duty.

**2** After having obtained the opinion of the expert (a member of the SEMI Committee at the fencing events at the Olympic Games and at World Championships), who has established the facts (cf. m.33ss), the Referee will apply the following sanctions, without prejudice to the application of Article t.137.2/4;

- in cases c), d), e), f) and g) the Referee will penalise him as specified for offences of the 4th group (cf. Articles t.158-162, t.169, t.170).

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 32**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.124**

**Motivation:** The current P-card rule has not had a positive effect on fencers' behavior on the piste, particularly in épée. One minute is too long to wait before sanctioning passivity with a P-card, and it does not encourage fencers to be more offensive or to engage more actively in the bout.

In other combat sports, such as judo, if an athlete refuses to engage for 20 to 30 seconds, they are penalized with a yellow card. This rule creates a more dynamic rhythm and forces competitors to take initiative.

Therefore, reducing the passivity time to 30 seconds could encourage fencers to adopt a more offensive attitude and engage more quickly in the bout**. The P-card should be use starting with the pools.**

**(Non-combativity)**

**t.124**

**Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)**

There is unwillingness to fight when there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of unwillingness to fight, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!' as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

**1 Individual events ~~– Direct elimination~~**

~~P-yellow cards and~~ P-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1~~.c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P ~~-yellow-~~**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both fencers with~~ a P~~-red~~ **black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

ii) If the scores of the two fencers are not equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower score with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

**2 Team events**

~~P-yellow ,~~ P-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2.~~c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P~~-yellow-~~**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both teams with~~ a P~~-red~~ **Black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores for the two teams are equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, with a P-Black card. The team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

ii) If the scores for the two teams are not equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-Black card. The team with the higher score wins the match.

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all 9 relays) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at 44-44.

b) In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.

c) In both individual and team competitions, the period/relay continues after the awarding of a ~~P-yellow or~~ P-Red card.

d) The ~~minute~~ **30 Seconds** starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled, each penalty hit and at the beginning of each period or relay.

e) The referee must record these ~~P-yellow,~~ P-red and P-black cards separately on the score sheet. The sanctions awarded for unwillingness to fight are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.

f) In both individual and team competitions, if, at the end of the regulation time, there is equality of scores, article t.124 does not apply and articles t.40.3 and t.41.5 will apply.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** in favour to start non-combativity from pools,

not in favour for 30 sec.

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**Proposal 33**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.127**

**Motivation:** Update t.127 with gender neutral language to better reflect our athletes. Gendered language that excludes female athletes can easily be updated to be inclusive

**t.127**

At the end of a bout, the Referee must bring together the two fencers, to announce clearly the score, which will be transmitted to the Directoire Technique. He must say clearly: '~~Mister~~ Fencer X won against ~~Mister~~ Fencer Y with the following score…'

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 34**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.128**

**Motivation:** To stop giving hits away that has been common action in recent seasons and to avoid the awarding a black card for it as required in t.128 but penalize with a less serious penalty.

**Personal effort**

**t.128**

Competitors must fence to their utmost ability in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits or seeking to be favoured by being given hits by anyone ~~(cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170)~~. ~~Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group.~~

1 A hit giving away to the opponent should not be awarded and the fencer who do so should be penalised for the offences of the 1st group (cf. t.165, t.170);

2 Profit from a fraudulent agreement with his opponent to change a result of the bout or team match will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group (cf. t.169, t.170).

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 35**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.132**

**Motivation:** During the team match nobody should enter the Piste Enclosure as well as to leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission.

**t.132**

2 During team competitions, no one has the right to enter the Piste Enclosure or leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission. In the case of such an offence, the Referee will penalise the offending team as provided for in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170. A warning imposed on a team is valid for the complete team match. Should a fencer, within the same match, commit another offence from the First Group, the Referee will penalise him on each occasion with a Red Card.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 36**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.150**

**Motivation:** Update t.150 by striking the words “failure to appear on the strip as required” and adding the specific rules which “weapons not in accordance with the rules” results in a Group 4 penalty. Article t.150 lists “failure to appear on the strip as required” as a reason of exclusion from the competition. This is inconsistent with t.118 and t.199 (and the penalty chart), which specify elimination as the penalty for failing to present oneself on strip when required. This matters for whether the fencer/team retains placement or is removed from the final rankings. The reference to “weapons not in accordance with the Rules” is problematic unless clarified to be considered to cover only issues related to t.73.1.c-f.

**t.150**

1 Exclusion from a competition may also be imposed for a disciplinary offence (~~failure to appear on the piste as required,~~ weapons not in accordance with the rules (t.73.1.c-f), reprehensible attitude towards an official, etc.).

2 The consequences of such exclusion for the competitor are the same as those described in Article t.149 above.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 37**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.170**

**Motivation:** Irrelevant article numbers in 1.1 and in 1.8 - **t.73.1.a** belongs to the 2nd group of penalties. **t.72** should be no penalty (proposal 32)

**t.170 1.1) 1.8)**

Offences and penalties

| | 1st group | | 1st offence | 2nd offence | 3rd offence and subseq. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.1 | Leaving piste without permission | ~~t.28.6~~ t.120 | | | |
| 1.2 | Corps à corps to avoid being hit * | t.25.2 | | | |
| 1.3 | Turning back on opponent * | t.27.2 | | | |
| 1.4 | Covering/substitution of valid target * | t.29.2, t.30.1, t.79, t.97 | | | |
| 1.5 | Touching/taking hold of electrical equipment * | t.29.3 | | | |
| 1.6 | Crossing lateral boundary of the piste to avoid being hit * | t.35.3 | | | |
| 1.7 | Interruption of bout without valid reason | t.43.2 | | | |
| 1.8 | Clothing/equipment not conforming. Curve of blade exceeding that permitted. Absence of regulation/spare weapon or bodywire | t.71, t.72, ~~t.76.1.a,~~ t.117 | | | |

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 38**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.170**

**Motivation:** The offences of the same article t.121.2 and of the same group should not be separate in the table.

**t.170 1.15) 1.16)**

Offences and penalties

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.15 | ~~Jostling, disorderly fencing~~ * ; taking off mask before the Referee calls ' Halt!'; dressing or undressing on the piste | t.116, ~~t.121.2~~, t.125 | | | |
| 1.16 | Irregular movements on the piste *; hits made with violence *; Jostling, disorderly fencing*; Intentional fall to avoid the hit * | t.121.2 | | | |

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 39**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.170**

**Motivation:** The offences of the same article t.121 in the same group should not be separate in the table.

3.6 moves to 3.2

**t.170 3.2) 3.6)**

Offences and penalties

| | 3rd group | | 1st time | 2nd time |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3.1 | Fencer disturbing order when on piste. In the most serious cases, the Referee may award a black card immediately | t.108.2, t.137.2 | RED | BLACK |
| 3.2 | Dishonest fencing . Anti-sporting behaviour * | t.121 | RED | |
| 3.3 | Offence against Publicity Code | Publicity Code | | |
| 3.4 | Any person not on piste disturbing good order ; smoking in the competition halls (including with electronic cigarettes). In the most serious cases, the Referee may award a black card immediately | t.109, t.110, t.111, t.133, t.137.3/4, t.168 | YELLOW | BLACK |
| 3.5 | Warming up or training without wearing fencing clothing or equipment that conforms to the FIE regulations. | t.20.2 | | |
| 3.6 | Anti-sporting behaviour | t.121.2 | RED | |

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

**Proposal 11**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.83, o.85, o.86, o.87**

**Motivation:** In recent years, participation in individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased considerably, with some events reaching over 300 athletes. Many of the athletes ask for equal conditions in the individual competition. In order to have equal conditions in senior FIE competitions, all the participants should start compete from the pools. After the pools all the qualifies athletes will fence the direct elimination table up to T64 in the first day. No top 16 world ranking exempte, no top 16 after the pools will be qualify direct to the T64. In the second day the rest of T64 will be fence. So all Senior FIE events will use one unifies formula.

All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

***C. MIXED FORMULA A. SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, SENIOR WORLD CUPS AND GRAND PRIX***

**Mixed formula A**

**o.83**

One qualifying round of pools, a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table~~, a main direct elimination table~~ of ~~64~~ fencers to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Senior World Championships as well as for the Senior World Cup competitions and Grand Prix competitions.

**o.85**

1 The competition consists of two phases, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.

~~2 The 16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification are exempt from the preliminary phase.~~

~~3~~ 2 Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.

~~4 In the case of a tie in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.~~

**o.86**

1 For World Cups ~~T~~the preliminary phase consists of one round of pools, from which 25% ~~20% – 30%~~ of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all participants

~~competing in them~~, and a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table until 64 fencers remain. For World Championship and Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

~~2 After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf o.73) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the 16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers is determined according to V, HS-HR, HS.~~

~~3~~ 2 The remainder of the fencers qualifying from the pools will make up a ~~preliminary integral~~ direct elimination table. This will be based on the indices of the fencers in all the pools (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots). This table, be it complete or incomplete, will be fenced until only 64 ~~32~~ fencers remain.

**o.87**

1 The main phase consists of a~~n~~ 64 integral direct elimination table, which is fenced on four pistes, one quarter of the table per piste. The first round of the table of 64 may, however, if required for the organisation of the competition, be fenced on eight pistes. Grand Prix competitions must be fenced either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video refereeing.

~~2 The seeded fencers exempted from the preliminary phase occupy places 1–16 in this table, drawing lots in pairs in the order of their official FIE classification.~~

~~3 Should one of the 16 exempted fencers who had been entered not present himself to fence (cf. o.85), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.~~

~~4 The 16 fencers who have the highest indices after the round of pools and who are thus exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table will take places 17–32, classified in the order of their indices (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots).~~

~~5 The 32 fencers qualifying from the~~ preliminary direct elimination table will ~~occupy places 33–64, classified according to their indices after the round of pools.~~

~~6 The drawing of lots and allocation of the qualified fencers in the main table (T64) shall be made at the end of the preliminary table in the presence of the Directoire Technique President.~~

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour, should start from the season 2028-2029

**Proposal 15**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.105**

**Motivation:** Cadet Zonal Championships should follow the same rule as Junior Zonal championships.

**Video Refereeing**

**o.105**

Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the World Championships and Olympic Games, cadet, junior and senior Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

**1** For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, senior Zonal ~~Zone~~ Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on 4 pistes or 8 pistes, and in any case, **from the table of 64.**

| Competitions | Individual event VIDEO, from | Team event VIDEO, from | Number of pistes equipped with VIDEO | Teams and ranking matches |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Senior World Cup | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior World Cup | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |
| Grand-Prix | T 64 | ---------- | 4 or 8 | ---------- |
| Senior World Championships | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Junior/Cadet World Championships | T 32 | T 16 (juniors) | 8 | T 1-8 |
| Senior Zonal Championship | T 64 | T 16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior Zonal Championship | ~~not mandatory~~ T16 | ~~not mandatory~~ T 16 (juniors) | ~~not mandatory~~ 4 or 8 | ~~not mandatory~~ T 1-8 |
| Veteran World Championships | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Zonal qualifying events for the Olympic Games | Pools | ----------<br>-- | All pistes | ---------- |
| Olympic Games | Mandatory for all phases of the Olympic competition | | | |

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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~~**Proposal 29**~~

~~**Presented by: Rules Commission**~~

~~**Article: t.71**~~

~~**Motivation:** To delete the explanation in the brackets in article t.71 because it creates confusion in the interpretation of the rules~~

~~**t.71**~~

~~If a fencer appears on the piste:~~

~~.....~~

~~- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.);~~

~~the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes.~~

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** Not in favour

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Material Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 40**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Structural Proposal: Adoption of the Two-Book Model for the FIE Material Rules**

**Motivation:** The SEMI Commission proposes that the Material Rules (the "M Book") be separated into:

(1) a **Material Rules Book (Book M)** containing all competition-side rules, and

(2) a **Materials Homologation Handbook (Book MH)** containing technical specifications, test methods, and homologation procedures for manufacturers, suppliers, and testing laboratories.

The Handbook is a highly technical document. Its content currently resides in Annexe A and Annexe B, intermingled with competition rules, making both harder to use. Several test methods in the current annexes are incomplete or missing.

The SEMI Commission, consistent with its mandate under FIE Statutes Article 6.5.4(e) to "lay down the testing procedure for such equipment," needs flexibility to develop and update these procedures in a timely manner to stay updated on safety and innovative technologies.

Congress continues to retain full authority over all safety standards and competition rules under FIE Statutes Article 3.2.3, the Congress "determines the modifications to be made to the Statutes, the Rules for the competitions". The Executive Committee continues to maintain institutional oversight and finally, the Handbook is still fully binding as Book M explicitly requires compliance with the Handbook.

This reorganization:

1. Separates the M Book into two documents with distinct audiences and governance pathways
2. Preserves all existing rules, safety standards, and homologation obligations without substantive change
3. Delegates technical testing procedures to the SEMI Commission and Executive Committee, consistent with FIE Statutes Article 6.5.4
4. Supports reorganization of scattered information into clear topics and areas and focuses the content to key stakeholders (competition-side vs. testing/homologation).
5. Enables the SEMI Commission to fill gaps in current test methods and update procedures as technology evolves
6. Aligns FIE practice with the standard approach used by major international sports federations.

**Proposed Resolution**

The SEMI Commission requests that the Congress approve the following:

1. That the Material Rules be restructured into: (a) Book M (competition-side rules, amended by Congress) and (b) Book MH (technical specifications, adopted by the Executive Committee on the SEMI Commission's proposal).
2. That the SEMI Commission be authorized to update technical procedures in Book MH, provided safety thresholds in Book M are maintained.
3. That compliance with Book MH be mandatory for all manufacturers, suppliers, and laboratories seeking FIE homologation.
4. That Annexe A and Annexe B be removed from the Material Rules, as their content is incorporated into Book M (Chapter 6) and Book MH.
5. That all changes to Book MH follow transparent versioning with communication to federations and manufacturers.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposal 41**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**NEW Materials Rule**

**Motivation:**

The proposed restructuring of the Material Rules does change the substance of the rules; it reorganizes them to be clearer, more precise, and easier to use for referees, weapons control, and federations.

What Does NOT Change

1. Technical requirements
2. Safety standards
3. Governance
4. Homologation requirements

The comparison tables will be used as a reference document. Every article and requirement from the 2025 Material Rules has been carried over and is traceable: either into the new Material Rules Book or into the new Materials Homologation Handbook, with explicit mappings for legal and rules verification.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

**Proposal 42**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**NEW Materials homologation handbook**

**Motivation:**

This handbook contains the technical specifications, test methods, laboratory procedures, and manufacturing standards necessary for the homologation of fencing equipment and materials used in FIE competitions.

This handbook is a companion document to the **Materials Rules (Book M)**, which governs competition-side obligations. This handbook focuses exclusively on manufacturer-side requirements, test procedures, and homologation processes.

**Key Principles:**

- Materials Rules Book → What is allowed in the Field of Play (referee/fencer focused)
- Materials Homologation Handbook →Equipment requirements, how it is tested and certified (manufacturer/laboratory focused)

The Materials Homologation Handbook will follow a controlled SEMI process, with transparent versioning and communication to federations and manufacturers, addressing past concerns about changes not being clearly communicated.

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** In favour

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**Proposals 43 until 117**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**75 proposals below for the FIE Material Rules.**

**Opinion of the Refereeing Commission:** IN FAVOUR but with following modifications

- Avoid repetitions “Materials Homologation Handbook” is mentioned in book 34 times. About Material Specifications for jacke, under-plastron a and breeches only once in general part would be recommended.

  be made entirely of cloth and seam able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.

- In general part use for all clothing and equipment and not for a single piece

- m.30 Conductive Jacket Requirements

1. Additional Requirements Foil

2. Correct size should be added as in t.77

The valid target at foil excludes the limbs and the head. It is confined to the trunk, the upper limit being the collar up to 6 cm above the prominences of the collar bones; at the sides to the seams of the sleeves, which should cross the head of the humerus; and the lower limit following a horizontal line across the back joining the tops of the hip bones, thence by straight lines to the junction of the lines of the groin. It also includes the part of the bib beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm below the chin which, in any case, may not be lower than the line of the shoulders.

2. Additional Requirements Sabre – remove irrelevant information, as for sabre is using only conductive jacket with sleeves

3.~~If the conductive jacket has sleeves, they~~ Sleeves must reach to the middle of the hand when the sword arm is extended and the hand is in the position of the sixte parry

**Article m.1**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.1 “Characteristics Common to All Weapons” provides only a brief enumeration of weapon types, a general conformity statement, and a general safety prohibition, without establishing scope, definitions, or compliance obligations for the Book. The restructured Article m.1 “General Provisions” introduces a formal framework that was previously absent, while drawing on principles from old m.1.1 (weapon types), old m.1.2 (conformity requirement), and old m.37 (fencer responsibility and weapons control obligations).

This reorganization:

1. Establishes a clear scope and application statement for the entire Material Rules Book
2. Provides formal definitions (Weapon, Equipment, Tip, Earth circuit, Official Safety Documents, Competition) that were previously undefined or implied across multiple articles
3. Creates an explicit mandatory Weapons Control compliance obligation
4. Sets a foundation of precedence rules for conflict resolution between this Book and other FIE documents
5. Maintains all existing principles without substantive change to technical requirements

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~~**PART 1. FENCERS’ WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT**~~

~~**CHAPTER 1. WEAPONS**~~ **Chapter 1: Global Requirements**

~~**CHARACTERISTICS COMMON TO ALL WEAPONS**~~

## m.1. General Provisions

**1. Scope** ~~There are three types of weapon: foil, épée and sabre.~~

This Book sets out the material and safety requirements applicable to all weapons and equipment used in fencing.

**2. Application, Amendment, and Precedence** ~~All weapons are authorised providing only that they conform to these regulations and to the safety standards which are annexed.~~

1. This Book must apply to all competitions organized, sanctioned, or recognized by the FIE.
2. In case of conflict concerning material and safety requirements, the provisions of this Book and the official safety documents must prevail.
3. SEMI Commission reserves the right to modify or supplement the technical requirements and handbooks whenever developments in technology, experience, or laboratory testing allow improvements in safety or performance.
4. Any such modifications must be communicated to member federations and manufacturers through official FIE channels and procedures.

**3. Definitions** ~~The weapon should be so constructed that it cannot normally injure either the user or his opponent. All methods of treating a blade between the guard and the tip (button) including the groove, by grinding, filing, heating or other methods, are forbidden.~~

1. Weapon must mean a foil, épée, or sabre conforming to this Book.
2. Equipment must mean components forming part of or attached to a weapon, including but not limited to clothing, protective gear, or device worn or used by a fencer or referee.
3. Official Safety Documents must mean documents issued by the FIE relating to safety standards, notices or safety directives through its official channels.
4. Competition must mean any FIE competition.
5. Tip must mean the forward extremity of the blade, including the electrical tip assembly on foil and épée and the striking end of the blade on sabre.
6. Earth circuit must also mean ground circuit.

**4. Mandatory Weapons Control Compliance**

1. All weapons and equipment used in competition must comply with this Book.
2. Weapons and equipment used in competition must be subject to official Weapons Control procedures as set out in Chapter 5.

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**Proposal 44**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.2**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.2 “General description” provides component descriptions for all weapons (blade, handle, guard). The restructured Article m.2 “General Technical Requirements” replaces this with overarching technical provisions. Old m.2 component descriptions are redistributed to new m.3 “General Construction of Weapons.” The new sub-sections draw content from other old articles: “Types of Weapons” repurposes old m.1.1 (weapon type enumeration);

"Conformity Requirement" expands old m.1.2 (conformity statement) into a formal compliance framework; "General Safety Principle" expands old m.1.3 (safety prohibition) from "should not injure" to "must not foreseeably cause injury." "Prohibition of Circumvention" and "Functional Integrity" are entirely new provisions with no prior equivalent.

This reorganization:

1. Redistributes old m.2 component descriptions to new m.3
2. Moves weapon type enumeration (from old m.1.1) into a dedicated sub-section
3. Establishes an explicit conformity requirement with a non-use rule (expanding old m.1.2)
4. Modernizes the safety principle (expanding old m.1.3)
5. Adds new anti-circumvention and functional integrity provisions

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~~**General description**~~

## m.2. General Technical Requirements

**1. Types of Weapons** ~~All weapons are composed of the following parts.~~

There are three types of weapon: Foil, Épée, Sabre.

**2. Conformity Requirement** ~~1. A flexible steel blade completed at its forward extremity by a button and at the rear by the tang (the latter included in the handle when the weapon is mounted). At all three weapons, the use of maraging steel blades is obligatory.~~

1. A weapon must conform in all respects to the material, construction, and dimensional requirements set out in this Book.
2. A weapon that does not conform must not be used in competition.
3. Only members of the SEMI Commission or the Directoire Technique can require verification of conformity to the Book and to homologation requirements in Chapter 6.

**3. General Safety Principle** ~~2. A handle within which the tang of the blade is fixed, and which enables the fencer's hand to hold the weapon. It may be composed of one or several parts: in the latter case it is divided into a grip (which is normally held in the hand) and a pommel (rear portion of the handle which locks the handle onto the tang).~~

1. A weapon must be constructed and maintained so that it does not intentionally or foreseeably cause injury beyond valid fencing actions.
2. Sharpening of the point or edges, grinding, filing, heating, or other methods that could create a cutting, slicing, or otherwise dangerous surface, are forbidden.

**4. Prohibition of Circumvention** ~~3. A metal guard fixed (with the convex face towards the front) between the blade and the handle, serving to protect the sword hand. For foil and épée, the guard must contain a padding or cushion (cf. m.5/2) to reduce the effect of blows. It will also contain a socket to which the bodywire can be connected.~~

No component or modification must be used to circumvent the intent or effect of these Rules.

**5. Functional Integrity**

A weapon must remain structurally sound and functionally reliable under normal competitive use.

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**Proposal 45**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.3**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.3 “Dimensions” defines measurement planes (A–E), distances, and blade-straightening rules for measurement. The restructured Article m.3 “General Construction of Weapons” replaces this with comprehensive construction provisions. Old m.3 measurement content is redistributed to new m.4 “Weapon Measurements and Dimensions.” The new sub-sections draw content from multiple old articles: “Components of a Weapon” repurposes old m.2 (blade, handle, guard enumeration); “Blade — General Construction” and “Blade — Material Requirements” draw from old m.2.1 (blade description and maraging steel requirement); “Blade — Surface Condition” repurposes old m.1.3 (blade treatment prohibition); “Guard” sub-sections draw from old m.5 (guard shape, surface, padding); “Handle” sub-sections draw from old m.4 (handle lengths, gauge, restrictions, orthopaedic conditions); “Tang — General Requirements” and “Socket Assembly” are entirely new provisions.

This reorganization:

1.. Redistributes old m.3 dimension content to new m.4

2. Consolidates weapon component descriptions from old m.2, m.4, and m.5 into one construction article

3. Adds detailed tang requirements previously absent

4. Creates discrete sub-sections for guard, handle, and socket assembly

5. Maintains all existing technical values while adding structural clarity

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~~Dimensions~~ **Chapter 2: Weapons**

**Part 1: All Weapon Parameters**

**m.3. General Construction of Weapons**

~~Each weapon has its particular design and measurements.~~

~~1. The length of the blade includes the button and everything which is added in front of the convex surface of the guard whether or not it is fixed to the latter.~~

## 1. Components of a Weapon

A weapon must be composed of the following components:

1. Blade;
2. Tang;
3. Guard;
4. Handle;
5. Socket.

## 2. Blade — General Construction

~~2. The total length of the weapon and its various parts corresponds to the distances between lines (planes) drawn parallel to each other and perpendicular to the axis of the blade. These lines are situated: a. A at the forward extremity of the weapon; b. B at the point where the blade leaves the front, convex, surface of the guard; c. C at the back of the aforesaid guard; d. D between the grip and the pommel; e. E at the rear extremity of the handle.~~

1. The blade must be constructed of flexible steel.
2. The blade must bend under normal fencing actions without breaking.

## 3. Blade — Material Requirements

~~3. The total length of the weapon is the distance between lines A and E; the length of the blade that between A and B; the length of the handle that between B and E; and the depth of the guard that between B and C.~~

For all three weapons, blades must be manufactured from maraging steel.

## 4. Blade — Surface Condition

~~4. The maximum total length of the weapon must be less than the greatest permissible length for the blade and the handle added together. These two latter lengths must, therefore, complement each other to arrive at the total length of the weapon.~~

The blade must not be sharpened, ground, heated, or otherwise treated in a manner that creates a hazardous surface.

## 5. Tang — General Requirements

~~5. In order to measure either the total length of the weapon or the length of the blade, it is essential that the latter should be without any curve. When measurements are being made, the blade should therefore be held straight on a flat surface.~~

1. The tang must form an integral continuation of the blade and must be manufactured from the same steel as the blade.
2. The tang must be designed and manufactured so that it maintains the structural integrity of the blade–handle assembly under normal competitive use.
3. Any transitions between the blade portion and the tang must be free of cracks or other defects.
4. The tang must be securely fixed within the handle so that it cannot loosen or rotate under normal competitive use.
5. No component, treatment, or modification of the tang may be used to circumvent the intent or effect of these Rules.

**6. Guard — General Requirements** ~~6. Only the pommel or the locking nut may be placed between lines D and E.~~

1. The guard must protect the hand and wrist without creating undue risk.
2. Material must conform with the requirements in the Homologation Handbook.

**7. Guard — External Surface**

1. The guard must be in a convex shape.
2. The external surface must be smooth.
3. The guard finish must not produce a distracting glare.
4. The guard must not include features that catch or hold the opponent's point.
5. The guard must not have a raised rim.
6. The guard must not feature any advertising.

**8. Guard — Internal Padding**

Internal materials must not enlarge the protective area beyond dimensional limits.

**9. Guard — Mounting**

The guard must be mounted and fixed between the blade and the handle with the convex face toward the front.

**10. Handle — General Requirements**

1. The handle must be composed of one or several parts.
2. A handle with several parts is divided into a grip and a pommel or a grip and locking nut.
3. A handle must comply with the regulations intended to place the various types of weapons on an equal footing.

**11. Handle — Structural Requirements**

1. The handle must be securely fixed.
2. The handle must not contain sharp edges.

**12. Handle — Design Restrictions**

1. The handle for thrusting weapons must have a notch of 2 mm minimum depth.
2. Handles must not contain concealed devices, concealed wires or any component not expressly permitted under these Rules.
3. Throwing-assist mechanisms must not be permitted.
4. The handle design must not circumvent or indirectly avoid the dimensional limits set out in m.4.

5. The handle must not include any device or component that projects beyond the external perimeter of the guard.
6. No portion of the grip must be designed or shaped to increase the protection of the hand or wrist beyond that provided by the guard.

**13. Handle — Special Shape (Orthopedic)**

If the handle or glove includes any device, attachment, or special (orthopaedic) shape that fixes the position of the hand, the handle must:

1. Fix the hand in one, and only one, position on the handle; and
2. In that position, keep the tip of the fully extended thumb no more than 2 cm from the inner surface of the guard.

**14. Socket Assembly — General Requirements**

1. Each weapon must contain a socket assembly.
2. The socket assembly must be fixed between the guard and the handle.

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**Proposal 46**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.4**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.4 “The handle” (old m.4.1–m.4.6) describes handle lengths, gauge requirements, handle type restrictions, throwing prohibition, protection restrictions, and orthopaedic handle conditions. The restructured Article m.4 “Weapon Measurements and Dimensions” replaces this with a consolidated dimensional reference. Old m.4 handle content is redistributed to new m.3 “General Construction of Weapons”: handle lengths (old m.4.1) move to new m.4 “Maximum Handle Length” with all values preserved; handle gauge (old m.4.2) moves to new m.3 “Handle — Structural Requirements”; handle types (old m.4.3) to new m.3 “Handle — General Requirements”; throwing prohibition (old m.4.4) and protection restriction (old m.4.5) to new m.3 “Handle — Design Restrictions”; orthopaedic conditions (old m.4.6) to new m.3 “Handle — Special Shape.” New m.4 draws its measurement plane and distance content from old m.3 “Dimensions” (planes A–E, distances). “Measurement Procedure” is a new provision referencing Chapter 5 (Weapons Control). This reorganization: 1. Consolidates all dimensional definitions (from old m.3) and handle lengths (from old m.4.1) into one article 2. Redistributes old m.4 handle requirements to new m.3 construction sub-sections 3. Adds an explicit measurement procedure reference to Chapter 5 4. Preserves all dimensional values without change 5. Creates a single reference point for all weapon measurement definitions

---

~~The handle~~ **Chapter 2: Weapons**

**Part 1: All Weapon Parameters**

## m.4. Weapon Measurements and Dimensions

**1. Measurement Planes** ~~1. The maximum length of the handle at foil and épée is 20 cm, measured between lines B and E, and 18 cm, measured between lines B and D. At sabre the maximum length of the handle is 17 cm.~~

1. Measurement planes A through E must define reference points for dimensional compliance.
2. These planes are all parallel to one another and perpendicular to the axis of the blade.
   a. Plane A at the forward extremity of the weapon.
   b. Plane B at the point where the blade exits the front convex surface of the guard.
   c. Plane C at the rear surface of the guard.
   d. Plane D at the junction between the grip and the pommel.
   e. Plane E at the rear extremity of the handle.

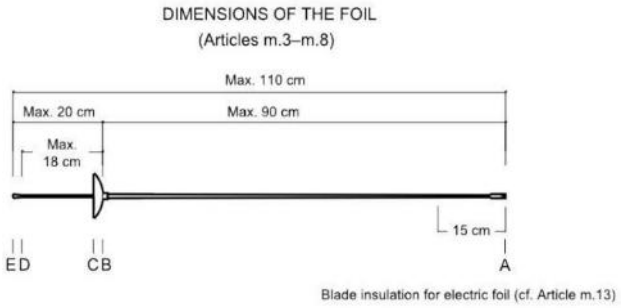



**Figure 1: Planes of the weapon**

**2. Measurement Distances** ~~2. The handle must be able to pass through the same gauge as the guard. It must be so made that normally it cannot injure either the user or his opponent.~~

Distances are measured along the axis of the blade between the planes where the blade is straight (perpendicular to the plane of measurement):

1. Total weapon length: the distance between planes A and E.
2. Blade length: the distance between planes A and B.
3. Handle length — with pommel: the distance between planes B and E.
4. Handle length — without pommel: the distance between planes B and rear extremity of the grip.
5. Guard depth: the distance between planes B and C.

**3. Measurement Procedure** ~~3. All types of handle are allowed providing that they conform to the regulations which have been framed with a view to placing the various types of weapons on~~

~~the same footing. However, at épée, orthopaedic handles, whether metal or not, may not be covered with leather or any material which could hide wires or switches.~~

Measurement procedures must follow provisions and process set forth in Chapter 5 (see m.57 and other applicable Weapons Control procedures).

**4. Maximum Handle Length** ~~4. The handle must not include any device which assists the fencer to use it as a throwing weapon~~

1. Foil and Épée — without a separate pommel: Plane B to Plane E = 20 cm.
2. Foil and Épée — with a separate pommel: Plane B to Plane D = 18 cm.
3. Sabre: Plane B to Plane E = 17 cm.

~~5. The handle must not include any device which can increase in any way the protection afforded to the hand or wrist of the fencer by the guard: a cross bar or electric socket which extends beyond the edge of the guard is expressly forbidden.~~

~~6. If the handle (or glove) includes any device or attachment or has a special shape (orthopaedic) which fixes the position of the hand on the handle, the handle must conform to the following conditions:~~

~~a. It must determine and fix one position only for the hand on the handle.~~

~~b. When the hand occupies this one position on the handle, the extremity of the thumb when completely extended must not be more than 2 cm from the inner surface of the guard.~~

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**Proposal 47**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.5**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.5 “The guard” (old m.5.1–m.5.5) describes guard surface requirements, padding/wiring provisions, socket attachment systems, electrical resistance limits, and equipment checking requirements applicable across all weapons. The restructured Article m.5 “Foil General Characteristics” replaces this with a single foil-specific nature statement. Old m.5 content is redistributed: guard surface (old m.5.1) moves to new m.3 “Guard — General Requirements”; padding and wiring (old m.5.2) to new m.8 “Foil Guard — Padding” and new m.9 “Foil Electrical System”; socket attachment (old m.5.3) to new m.3 “Socket Assembly — Detachment, Security”; electrical resistance (old m.5.4) to new m.9 “Foil Electrical System — Electrical Resistance”; equipment and checking (old m.5.5) to new m.2 “General Technical Requirements” and new m.3 construction provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear foil-specific introduction article
2. Redistributes cross-weapon guard requirements to the general construction article (new m.3)
3. Places foil-specific guard details in new m.8
4. Consolidates electrical provisions in new m.9

---

## ~~The guard~~ Part 2: Foil Specific Requirements

### m.5. Foil General Characteristics

**1. Nature of the Weapon** ~~1. The convex face of the guard must have a shape and surface which is both smooth and not too shiny. It must be so made that it can neither hold nor catch the opponent's point. It must not have a raised rim.~~

The foil is a thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of a spring-loaded tip connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

~~2. a) For foil and épée, inside the guard there must be a cushion (padding) sufficiently wide to protect the electric wires from the fencer's fingers. The padding on the inside of the guard must be less than 2 cm thick and must be arranged in such a way as not to increase the protection which the guard affords the hand.~~

~~b. The connections must be so arranged that it is impossible for the fencer to break or make contacts while fencing.~~

~~c. On foils, the wire must be protected by an insulating sheath.~~

~~d. On épées, the two wires must be protected by two insulating sheaths, one on each wire.~~

~~e. Both the wire and the insulating sheath must go right up to the socket.~~

~~f. In no case may uninsulated wires project beyond the point where they are attached to the socket (cf. m.29, m.31).~~

~~3. Any system of attachment inside the guard is allowed, provided that it conforms to the following requirements.~~

~~a) It must be easy to detach or attach the bodywire.~~

~~b) It must be possible to check it.~~

~~c) It must have a security device which prevents the bodywire from becoming unplugged during the bout. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire.~~

~~d) It must ensure the complete connection of the electric wires; it must be impossible for even a momentary break of contact to occur while the plugs are connected.~~

~~e) It must not include any part which allows electrical contact to be made between the plug sockets.~~

~~4. a) The maximum electrical resistance allowed for foil and épée is 2 ohms and for sabre 1 ohm.~~

~~5. a) At foil and épée, only traditional or homologated pointes d'arrêt are accepted.~~

~~b. In order that the registering of hits by the contact of the point on the opponent be correctly registered by the scoring device, the pointes d'arrêt must be clean. The electrical resistance measured in ohms must not exceed the limit of two ohms (m.5.4.a).~~

~~c. The blades and the guards at épée, foil and sabre must be totally of metal. Apart from at sabre where the part of the guard next to the pommel is insulated (insulating sheath), their exteriors must not be covered by any material (plastic or other). The guard may not feature any advertising. This is also the case for the insulated part of the sabre guard.~~

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**Proposal 48**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.6**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.6 "Weight" (old m.6) contains only the foil total weight limit (500 g). The restructured Article m.6 "Foil Dimensions and Weight" consolidates all foil dimensional and weight limits into a single article. "Maximum Total Length" draws from old m.7 (110 cm total length); "Maximum Blade Length" draws from old m.8.4 (90 cm blade length); "Maximum Weight" expands old m.6 with explicit component definitions and measurement procedure references.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all foil dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.7 and blade length from old m.8.4
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

---

~~**Weight**~~

**m.6. Foil Dimensions and Weight**

1. **Maximum Total Length** ~~The total weight of the foil ready for use must be less than 500 g.~~
   The total length of the foil, measured between plane A and plane E of a straight blade, must not exceed 110 cm (see Figure 2, m.4, and m.57).

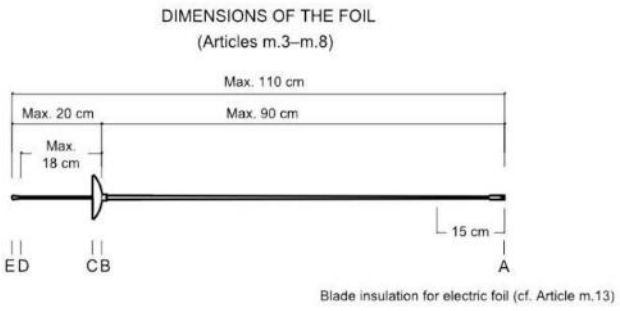



**Figure 2: Dimension of the foil**

**2. Maximum Blade Length**

The blade length, measured between plane A and plane B, must not exceed 90 cm (see Figure 2, m.4, and m.57).

**3. Maximum Weight**

1. For the purposes of Foil, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket, tip assembly, insulation, and internal wiring.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the foil must be less than 500g.
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures (see m.55–m.57).

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**Proposal 49**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.7**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.7 “Length” (old m.7) contains only the foil maximum total length (110 cm). The restructured Article m.7 “Foil Blade” consolidates all foil blade-specific provisions into one article. “Cross Section” draws from old m.8.1 (rectangular section); “Material” from old m.8.1 (steel/Annexe A reference); “Orientation” from old m.8.3 (widest face horizontal); “Edge Treatment” from old m.8.2 (chamfer requirements); “Flexibility” from old m.8.5 (bend 5.5–9.5 cm); “Curvature” from old m.8.6 (max 1 cm); “Blade Tip” from old m.12.4 (minimum 3.5 mm diameter). This reorganization: 1. Gathers all blade characteristics from old m.8 into a dedicated blade article 2. Moves the total length provision to new m.6 3. Adds blade tip dimensional requirements from old m.12 4. References Weapons Control procedures for verification

---

~~**Length**~~

**m.7. Foil Blade**

**1. Cross Section** ~~1. The maximum total length of the foil is 110 cm.~~

The blade must be rectangular in cross-section.

**2. Material**

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook (see m.69).

### 3. Orientation

1. The blade must be mounted with the widest face horizontal.
2. The groove must be positioned uppermost.

### 4. Edge Treatment

1. The edges of the blade must be chamfered.
2. The chamfer must form an angle of 45° ± 5°.
3. The chamfer must measure 0.5 mm ± 0.1 mm on each side.
4. The edges must be smooth and must not be capable of cutting.

### 5. Flexibility

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend between 5.5 cm and 9.5 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from Plane A.
   c. The bend of the blade is measured from Plane A between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 3).

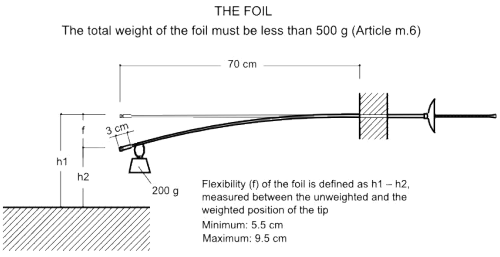



**Figure 3: Foil blade flexibility verification**

### 6. Curvature

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 1 cm.
2. The curvature must only be in the vertical plane.
3. The curvature must be near the center of the blade.
4. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way (see Figure 4):
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
   b. The position of the curve is uppermost.

c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade.

d. The curvature must be measured as described above (see m.57 for general measurement rules).

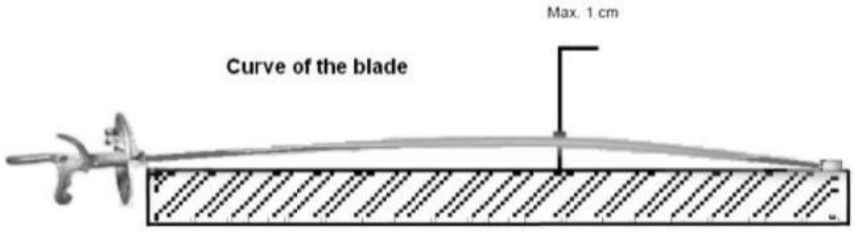



**Figure 4: Foil blade curvature**

**7. Blade Tip**

1. The diameter at the end of a bare blade closest to Plane A must not be less than 3.5 mm prior to threading.
2. No wrapping or artificial enlargement of the blade diameter must be permitted.

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**Proposal 50**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.8**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.8 “The blade” (old m.8.1–m.8.6) describes blade cross-section, edge treatment, mounting orientation, maximum blade length, flexibility, and curvature. The restructured Article m.8 “Foil Guard” covers foil guard diameter, blade position, padding, gauge compliance, and socket assembly. Old m.8 blade content is redistributed: cross-section (old m.8.1) to new m.7 “Foil Blade — Cross Section”; edge treatment (old m.8.2) to new m.7 “Edge Treatment”; mounting (old m.8.3) to new m.7 “Orientation”; blade length (old m.8.4) to new m.6 “Maximum Blade Length”; flexibility (old m.8.5) to new m.7 “Flexibility”; curvature (old m.8.6) to new m.7 “Curvature.” New m.8 guard content draws from old m.9 (guard gauge and diameter) and old m.5 (padding and socket requirements).

This reorganization:

1. Moves all blade provisions from old m.8 to new m.7
2. Creates a dedicated foil guard article
3. Draws guard content from old m.9 and old m.5
4. Adds socket assembly requirements

---

~~**The blade**~~

## m.8. Foil Guard

**1. Diameter** ~~1. The blade, which is rectangular in section, must be made of steel complying with the safety standards described in Annexe A to the Rules.~~

The diameter of the guard must not be less than 9.5 cm and must not exceed 12 cm.

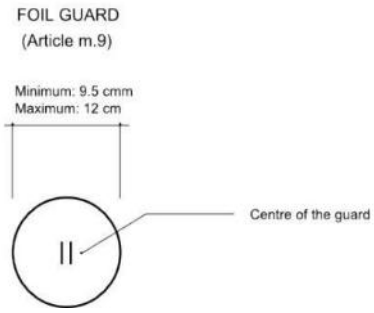



**Figure 5: Foil guard**

**2. Position of the Blade** ~~2. The edges must be smoothed off so that they cannot cut, and must be chamfered at an angle of 45° (± 5°), 0.5 mm on each side (± 0.1 mm), so that they will neither cut nor become capable of cutting.~~

The blade must pass through the center of the guard.

**3. Padding** ~~3. The blade is mounted with the widest face placed horizontally.~~

1. The interior must contain padding of cushioning material.
2. Padding must not exceed 2 cm in thickness.

**4. Gauge Compliance** ~~4. The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm (cf. m.3).~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The foil guard must pass through a cylindrical gauge of 12 cm diameter and 15 cm length (see m.4 and m.57 for dimensional checks).
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the cylinder.

**5. Foil Guard Socket Assembly** ~~5. The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of minimum 5.5 cm and maximum 9.5 cm measured in the following way. a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button. b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from the extremity of the button. c. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 8).~~

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the body wire is plugged.

2. The socket assembly must ensure reliable electrical contact during all fencing actions (see m.36–m.37 for body wire and plug requirements).
3. The socket assembly must be secured to prevent disconnection during the bout.

~~6. The blade should be as straight as possible. Any curve of the blade must be uniform and the maximum bend must in any case be less than one cm; it is only permitted in the vertical plane and must be near the centre of the blade. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i) the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii) the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 8).~~

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**Proposal 51**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.9**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.9 “The guard (cf. m.5)” (old m.9.1–m.9.2) describes the foil guard gauge requirement (12 cm diameter, 15 cm cylinder) and guard diameter limits (9.5–12 cm). The restructured Article m.9 “Foil Electrical System” covers the electrical wire, resistance, and circuit function. Old m.9 guard content moves to new m.8 “Foil Guard — Gauge Compliance” and “Diameter.” New m.9 electrical content draws from old m.10 (electric wire and groove), old m.5.4 (2-ohm resistance limit), and old m.11.6 (earth circuit function).

This reorganization:

1. Moves guard gauge/diameter from old m.9 to new m.8
2. Creates a dedicated electrical system article for the foil
3. Consolidates wire, resistance, and circuit provision
4. Draws from old m.10, m.5.4, and m.11.6

---

~~The guard (cf. m.5)~~

### m.9. Foil Electrical System

**1. Electrical Wire** ~~1. The guard must be able to pass through a straight cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 12 cm and a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel with the axis of the cylinder.~~

1. The foil must contain a single insulated electrical wire.
2. The wire must be securely affixed by glue within a groove along the entire length of the blade.
3. The wire must permanently connect the pointe d'arrêt to the socket.

**2. Electrical Resistance** ~~2. The blade must pass through the centre of the guard. The diameter of the guard must be between 9.5 cm and 12 cm.~~

1. The total electrical resistance of the foil must not exceed 2 ohms.
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures.

**3. Circuit Function**

1. When the tip assembly is not depressed, the circuit must be closed.
2. When the tip assembly is depressed in accordance with this Book, the circuit must be interrupted.
3. The electrical characteristics of the foil must be compatible with the central judging apparatus (see Chapter 4 and m.43).

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**Proposal 52**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.10**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.10 "Electric wire" (old m.10) describes only the single electric wire glued in the blade groove connecting the pointe d'arrêt to the socket. The restructured Article m.10 "Foil Tip Assembly" is a comprehensive article covering all tip assembly components, materials, dimensions, mounting, construction, travel, circuit function, and pressure requirements. Content draws from old m.11 (pointe d'arrêt dimensions from old m.11.1–2, pressure from old m.11.3, travel from old m.11.4, mounting from old m.11.5, circuit from old m.11.6) and old m.13.2 (flange diameter). New provisions are added for tip assembly component listing, material requirements, spring construction, and barrel construction.

This reorganization:

1. Moves electric wire from old m.10 to new m.9
2. Creates a comprehensive tip assembly article
3. Draws pointe d'arrêt provisions from old m.11
4. Draws flange provision from old m.13.2
5. Adds new component, material, spring, and barrel provisions

---

~~**Electric wire**~~

## m.10. Foil Tip Assembly

### 1. Tip Assembly Components ~~1. The foil has a single wire, glued in a groove cut the whole length of the blade, which permanently connects the pointe d'arrêt to the corresponding socket inside the guard. The groove in the blade must be uppermost.~~

A tip assembly must consist of:

1. An insulated pointe d'arrêt
2. A flange that is smaller in diameter to the pointe d'arrêt
3. A spring
4. A barrel that is a separate hollow cylindrical body

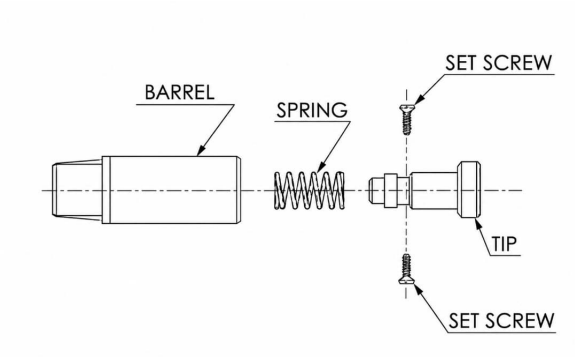



**Figure 6: Foil Tip Assembly**

### 2. Tip Assembly Material

1. The components of the tip assembly must be manufactured from materials that:
   a. Provide sufficient mechanical durability under normal competitive use;
   b. Maintain consistent electrical performance as required by this Book; and
   c. Resist corrosion or degradation that could affect safety or electrical function.
2. Material specifications and approved alloys must be defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

### 3. Pointe d'arrêt — Dimensions

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical.
2. The front surface of the pointe d'arrêt is flat and perpendicular to its axis.
3. The diameter of the pointe d'arrêt must be between 5.5 mm and 7 mm.

### 4. Pointe d'arrêt — Edge Dimension

The edge of the pointe d'arrêt must be either:

1. Rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm; or
2. Chamfered at 45° with a width of 0.5 mm.

### 5. Pointe d'arrêt — Mounting

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained within the barrel in at least two places equidistant from each other.
2. Other methods of mounting must be approved by the SEMI Commission.

### 6. Flange — Construction

1. The flange must be fixed to the pointe d'arrêt.2. The flange must have a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d'arrêt.

### 7. Spring — Construction

1. Springs must be manufactured from materials capable of maintaining their elastic properties under repeated compression during normal competitive use.
2. The spring must be capable of lifting a weight of 500 grams ±2 grams (see m.61 for required test weights).

### 8. Barrel — Construction

1. The barrel must be a length from 7–8 mm.
2. The barrel must have a smooth external surface.

### 9. Tip Assembly — Travel

1. The total travel of the pointe d'arrêt must not exceed 1 mm.
2. Travel must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures and the checking apparatus requirements (m.61) in the following way:
   a. Gauge measurement with a tolerance not exceeding ±0.05 mm (see m.57 and m.61 for tip travel gauges).

### 10. Tip Assembly — Circuit Function

1. The pointe d'arrêt must maintain electrical contact with the earth circuit of the foil when not depressed.

2. The circuit must be interrupted when the pointe d'arrêt is depressed.
3. No wrapping, coating, or artificial enlargement of the blade diameter must be permitted.

**11. Tip Assembly — Pressure**

1. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt to interrupt the circuit must exceed 500 grams.
2. Pressure must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. A weight of 500g ±2 g must be lifted by the spring of the tip assembly (see m.61).

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**Proposal 53**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.11**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.11 "Pointe d'arrêt" (old m.11.1–m.11.6) describes pointe d'arrêt dimensions, cylindrical shape, pressure requirements, travel limits, retention methods, and earth circuit function. The restructured Article m.11 "Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface" covers the threaded interface between blade and tip assembly. Old m.11 pointe d'arrêt content moves to new m.10 "Foil Tip Assembly" (dimensions to m.10 sub 3–4; pressure to m.10 sub 11; travel to m.10 sub 9; mounting to m.10 sub 5; circuit to m.10 sub 10). New m.11 interface content draws from old m.12 "Method of affixing the button": general requirement from old m.12.1; minimum blade diameter from old m.12.4; threaded diameter from old m.12.5; groove dimensions from old m.12.7; barrel portion from old m.12.6; fixing method from old m.12.2–3. "Security of the Tip Assembly" is a new provision.

This reorganization:

1. Moves pointe d'arrêt provisions to new m.10
2. Creates a dedicated blade-tip interface article
3. Draws interface content from old m.12
4. Adds a new security provision

---

~~**Pointe d'arrêt**~~

**m.11. Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface**

**1. General Requirement** ~~1. The diameter of the pointe d'arrêt is between 5.5 mm and 7 mm; the diameter of the body of the button including its exterior insulation must not be more than 0.3 mm less than that of the pointe d'arrêt.~~

1. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of a threaded interface in accordance with the foil weapon.

2. Only fixing methods expressly permitted by this Book must be allowed.
3. The interface region is where the barrel is fixed to the blade.
4. The lighting stroke cannot exceed 1mm

**2. Minimum Blade Diameter** ~~2. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical; its front surface is flat and perpendicular to its axis. Its edge will either be rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm or have a chamfer of 0.5 mm at 45°.~~

Prior to threading, the blade must not have a diameter of less than 3.5 mm at any point within the interface region.

**3. Threaded Diameter — Blade** ~~3. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt, in order to break the contact and cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 500 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point. The weight of 500 g supplied by the Organising Committee may have a tolerance of ± 2 g.~~

The diameter of the threaded core (opposite to the widest part of the blade) at the edge of the blade must not be less than 2.7 mm (Threading — SI 3.5 × 0.60).

**4. Threaded Portion Length — Blade Groove** ~~4. The course or travel of the pointe d'arrêt required to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit, called the lighting stroke, may be infinitesimal: the total travel of the pointe d'arrêt must not be greater than 1 mm. The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm.~~

1. The width of the groove of the blade at the threaded portion must not exceed 0.5 mm.
2. The depth of the groove of the blade at the threaded portion must not exceed 0.6 mm.
3. Depth of the groove is measured on the diameter of the threaded core.

**5. Threaded Portion Length — Barrel** ~~5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button in at least two places equidistant from each other, or by any other method which has been approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

1. Only the forward half of this length must be threaded.
2. The remaining half must engage a smooth internal bore within the tip assembly.

**6. Fixing Method** ~~6. When not depressed the pointe d'arrêt is in contact with the earth circuit of the foil. When a hit is made, this contact must be broken.~~

1. Only metal-to-metal fixing must be permitted.
2. Soldering, brazing, or any heating process that may alter the temper or mechanical properties of the blade is prohibited.
3. Alternative fixing methods may be authorized after approval of the SEMI Commission.
4. The threaded interface must not loosen under normal competitive use.
5. Material wrapped around the surface of the bare blade is prohibited (see m.2 for general safety and circumvention rules).

**7. Security of the Tip Assembly**

1. The tip assembly must remain securely engaged with the threaded portion of the blade during normal competitive use.
2. If the tip assembly becomes loose, disengaged, or partially unscrewed, the foil must be deemed non-compliant and must not be used until properly repaired.
3. No external clips, locking devices, or additional components may be added outside the defined tip assembly in order to secure the tip.
4. Only components forming part of the approved tip assembly design must be permitted (see m.59–m.60).

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**Proposal 54**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.12**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.12 “Method of affixing the button” (old m.12.1–m.12.8) describes button base threading, fixing methods, soldering prohibition, minimum blade diameter, thread core diameter, button length and threading specifications, groove dimensions, and SEMI verification authority. The restructured Article m.12 “Foil Insulation” covers insulation coverage and materials. Old m.12 button-affixing content is redistributed to new m.11 “Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface”: general threading (old m.12.1) to new m.11 “General Requirement”; fixing method (old m.12.2) and soldering (old m.12.3) to new m.11 “Fixing Method”; blade diameter (old m.12.4) to new m.11 “Minimum Blade Diameter” and new m.7 “Blade Tip”; thread diameter (old m.12.5) to new m.11 “Threaded Diameter”; button length (old m.12.6) to new m.10 “Barrel — Construction” and new m.11 “Threaded Portion Length”; groove (old m.12.7) to new m.11 “Threaded Portion Length — Blade Groove”; verification (old m.12.8) to Chapter 5 Weapons Control. New m.12 insulation content draws from old m.13 “The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle” (old m.13.1 insulation coverage; old m.13.2 flange dimension).

This reorganization:

1. Moves button-affixing provisions to new m.11
2. Creates a dedicated insulation article
3. Draws insulation content from old m.13
4. Redistributes old m.12.8 verification to Chapter 5

---

~~**Method of affixing the button**~~

**m.12. Foil Insulation**

**1. Insulation Coverage** ~~1. The base of the button must be screwed onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions.~~

1. The cylindrical body of the tip assembly and the blade must be fully covered with insulating material.
2. Insulating material must extend rearward from the edge of the barrel along the blade for a length of 15 cm ±1 cm.
3. The insulation must be continuous from the barrel onto the blade, with no uninsulated gap at the junction.

**2. Insulation Materials** ~~2. Normally, only fixing by metal-to-metal is allowed. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.~~

Insulation must consist of adhesive tape, gummed paper, Sellotape, varnish, or plastic material (see m.43).

~~3. All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade are forbidden.~~

~~4. The end of the blade before cutting the thread must not have a diameter at any point of less than 3.5 mm, and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.~~

~~5. The diameter of the core of the thread must not be less than 2.7 mm (thread SI 3.5 x 0.60). The threading must be very tight.~~

~~6. The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7–8mm entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length at the extremity of the blade be threaded. For the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 3.5 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.~~

~~7. At the point at which the wire passes into the button, the width of the groove must not exceed 0.5 mm, and its depth must not exceed 0.6 mm measured on the diameter of the core of the thread, in order to weaken as little as possible the section of the blade.~~

~~8. Only the members of the SEMI Committee of the FIE or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.~~

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**Proposal 55**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.13**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.13 “The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle” (old m.13.1–m.13.2) describes foil insulation coverage and flange diameter requirements. The restructured Article m.13 “Épée General Characteristics” replaces this with an épée-specific nature statement. Old m.13 insulation content is redistributed: insulation coverage (old m.13.1) to new

m.12 “Foil Insulation — Insulation Coverage”; flange dimension (old m.13.2) to new m.10 “Foil Tip Assembly — Flange Construction.”

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear épée-specific introduction article
2. Redistributes old foil insulation content to new m.12 and m.10
3. Begins the Épée Specific Requirements section (Part 3)

---

~~The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle~~ **Part 3: Épée Specific Requirements**

### m.13. Épée General Characteristics

**1. Nature of the Weapon** ~~1. The body of the button and the foil blade for a length of 15 cm +/- 1cm from the button must be entirely covered with insulating material (insulating tape, gummed paper, Sellotape, plastic material or varnish).~~

The épée is a thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of a spring-loaded tip connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

~~2. The flange of the sleeve which slides in the base of the point and within which is fixed the pointe d'arrêt must be of a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d'arrêt itself, to obviate an accidental contact being made with the conductive jacket when a hit is made.~~

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**Proposal 56**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.14**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.14 “Weight” (old m.14) contains only the épée total weight limit (770 g). The restructured Article m.14 “Épée Dimensions and Weight” consolidates all épée dimensional and weight limits. “Maximum Total Length” draws from old m.15 (110 cm); “Maximum Blade Length” from old m.16.3 (90 cm); “Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear” from old m.17.2 (95.5 cm); “Maximum Weight” expands old m.14 with component definitions and measurement procedures.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all épée dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.15, blade length from old m.16.3, guard rear length from old m.17.2
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

~~**Weight**~~

## m.14. Épée Dimensions and Weight

**1. Maximum Total Length** ~~The total weight of the épée ready for use is less than 770 g.~~

The total length of the épée, measured between plane A and plane E, must not exceed 110 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

**2. Maximum Blade Length**

The blade length, measured between plane A and plane B of a straight blade, must not exceed 90 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

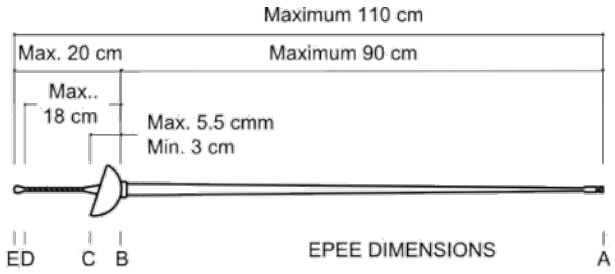



**Figure 7: Épée dimensions and planes**

**3. Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear**

The total length between planes A and C must never be greater than 95.5 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

**4. Maximum Weight**

1. For the purposes of Épée, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket assembly, tip assembly, and internal wiring.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the épée ready for use must be less than 770 g (see m.55–m.57).
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures.

**Proposal 57**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.15**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.15 “Length” (old m.15) contains only the épée maximum total length (110 cm). The restructured Article m.15 “Épée Blade” consolidates all blade provisions. “Cross Section” draws from old m.16.1 (triangular section); “Material” from old m.16.1 (steel/Annexe A); “Orientation” from old m.16.2 (groove uppermost); “Maximum Width” from old m.16.4 (24 mm); “Flexibility” from old m.16.5 (4.5–7 cm); “Curvature” from old m.16.2 (max 1 cm).

This reorganization:

1. Gathers all blade characteristics from old m.16 into a dedicated blade article
2. Moves total length to new m.14
3. Adds measurement verification references
4. References Weapons Control procedures

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~~**Length**~~

## m.15. Épée Blade

**1. Cross Section** ~~The total maximum length of the épée is 110 cm (cf m.3).~~

The blade must be triangular in section without cutting edges.

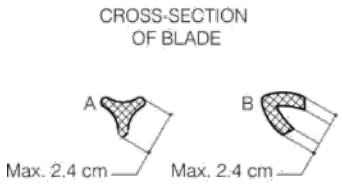



**Figure 8: Cross-section of épée blade**

**2. Material**

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Orientation**

1. The blade must be mounted with the widest face horizontal.
2. The groove must be positioned uppermost.

## 4. Maximum Width

The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is 24 mm.

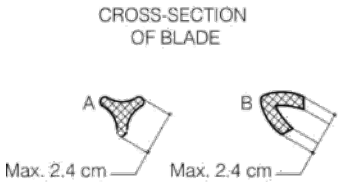



**Figure 9: Maximum width of a side of the épée blade**

## 5. Flexibility

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend between 4.5 cm and 7 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from Plane A.
   c. The bend of the blade is measured from Plane A between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 10).

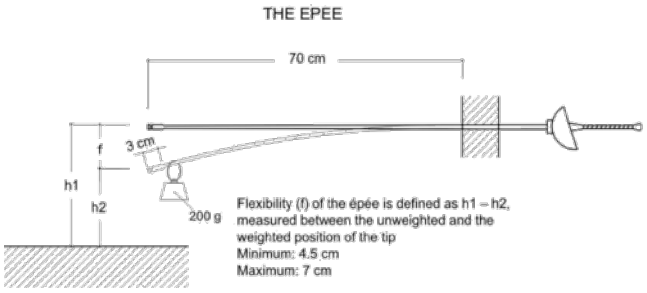



**Figure 10: Épée blade flexibility verification**

## 6. Curvature

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 1 cm.
2. The curvature must only be in the vertical plane.
3. The curvature must be near the center of the blade.
4. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.

b. The position of the curve is uppermost.

c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade.

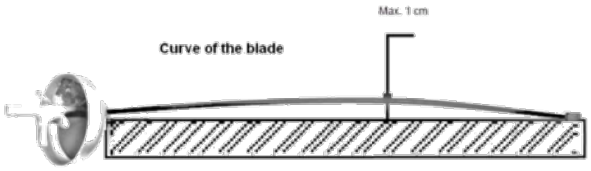



**Figure 11: Épée blade curvature**

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**Proposal 58**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.16**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.16 “The blade” (old m.16.1–m.16.5) describes the épée blade section, curvature, blade length, maximum width, and flexibility. The restructured Article m.16 “Épée Guard” covers guard depth, eccentric mounting, padding, and gauge compliance. Old m.16 blade content is redistributed: triangular section (old m.16.1) to new m.15 “Cross Section”; curvature (old m.16.2) to new m.15 “Curvature”; blade length (old m.16.3) to new m.14 “Maximum Blade Length”; max width (old m.16.4) to new m.15 “Maximum Width”; flexibility (old m.16.5) to new m.15 “Flexibility.” New m.16 guard content draws from old m.17 (guard gauge/depth/eccentricity) and old m.5 (padding).

This reorganization:

1. Moves all blade provisions from old m.16 to new m.15
2. Creates a dedicated épée guard article
3. Draws guard content from old m.17 and old m.5
4. Adds padding provision from old m.5

---

~~**The blade**~~

**m.16. Épée Guard**

**1. Guard Depth** ~~1. The blade, which is triangular in section without cutting edges, is made of steel and must comply with the safety standards described in Annexe A to the Rules.~~

The depth of the guard (the distance between planes B and C) must be between 3 cm and 5.5 cm (see Figure 7).

**2. Eccentric Mounting Option** ~~2. It should be as straight as possible and mounted with the groove uppermost. Any curve of the blade must be uniform and the maximum bend must in any case be less than 1 cm; it is only permitted in the vertical plane and must be near the centre of the blade. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i) the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii) the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 9).~~

The distance between the center of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the guard must not exceed 3.5 cm.

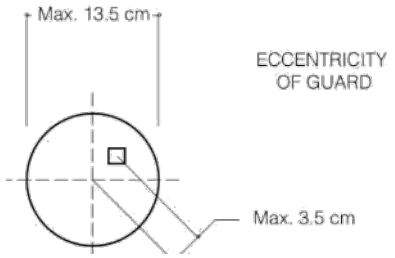



**Figure 12: Épée guard eccentricity limits**

**3. Padding** ~~3. The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm. (cf. m.3).~~

1. The interior must contain padding of cushioning material.
2. Padding must not exceed 2 cm in thickness.

**4. Gauge Compliance** ~~4. The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is 24 mm.~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The guard must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm and a length of 15 cm.
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the cylinder.

~~5. The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of 4.5 cm minimum and 7 cm maximum measured in the following way. a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button. b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from the extremity of the button. c. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 9).~~

**Proposal 59**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.17**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.17 “The guard (cf. m.5)” (old m.17.1–m.17.3) describes the épée guard gauge (13.5 cm diameter), total length to guard rear (95.5 cm), and eccentric mounting (3.5 cm offset). The restructured Article m.17 “Épée Socket Assembly” covers the socket block and wire passage. Old m.17 guard content is redistributed: gauge (old m.17.1) to new m.16 “Gauge Compliance”; guard depth (old m.17.1) to new m.16 “Guard Depth”; total length to guard rear (old m.17.2) to new m.14 “Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear”; eccentric mounting (old m.17.3) to new m.16 “Eccentric Mounting Option.” New m.17 socket content draws from old m.18.3 (socket block with separate holes).

This reorganization:

1. Moves guard gauge/depth/eccentricity to new m.16
2. Moves total-to-guard-rear length to new m.14
3. Creates a dedicated socket assembly article
4. Draws socket content from old m.18

---

~~**The guard (cf. m.5)**~~

**m.17. Épée Socket Assembly**

**1. Socket Assembly** ~~1. The guard, which must have a circular edge, must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm and a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel to the axis of the cylinder. The depth of the guard (the distance between lines B and C) must be between 3 cm and 5.5 cm (cf. m.3).~~

1. The socket assembly must be 3 separate sockets held in position by a block.
2. The socket must have two separate holes in the block.

~~2. The total length between lines A and C must never be greater than 95.5 cm (cf. m.3).~~

~~3. Eccentric mounting is allowed provided the distance between the centre of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the guard does not exceed 3.5 cm.~~

---

**Proposal 60**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.18**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.18 “Electric wires” (old m.18.1–m.18.3) describes the épée’s two electric wires, handle notch for wire passage, and socket block requirements. The restructured Article m.18 “Épée Handle” covers the handle covering restriction for orthopaedic handles. Old m.18 electric wire content is redistributed: two wires in groove (old m.18.1) to new m.19 “Electrical Wire”; handle notch (old m.18.2) to new m.3 handle provisions; socket block (old m.18.3) to new m.17 “Épée Socket Assembly.” New m.18 handle content draws from old m.4.3 (épée orthopaedic handle restriction).

This reorganization:

1. Moves electric wire provisions to new m.19
2. Moves socket block to new m.17
3. Creates a dedicated handle article
4. Draws handle restriction from old m.4.3

---

~~**Electric wires**~~

**m.18. Épée Handle**

**1. Épée Handle** ~~1. The épée has two electric wires, glued in a groove in the blade, which connect the button to two of the three sockets situated inside the guard and which form the active circuit of the épée. The earth circuit of the épée is connected to the third socket.~~

Orthopedic handles, whether metal or not, may not be covered with leather or any material which could hide wires or switches.

~~2. The handle must have, at the end which is in contact with the guard, a notch of 2 mm minimum depth, which allows the electric wires and their insulating sheaths to pass towards the sockets inside the guard without being squashed. (cf m.31.7)~~

~~3. The socket inside the epee guard must have two separate holes in the block, so that the two wires can be passed through the block separately and then connected to the terminals.~~

---

**Proposal 61**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.19**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.19 “Pointe d’arrêt and button” (old m.19.1–m.19.5) describes the épée pointe d’arrêt specifications, pressure, test weight, travel requirements, and retention. The restructured Article m.19 “Épée Electrical System” covers the electrical wire, wire-socket assembly, resistance, and circuit function. Old m.19 pointe d’arrêt content is redistributed to new m.20 “Épée Tip Assembly” (dimensions from old m.19.1; pressure from old m.19.2; travel from old m.19.4; mounting from old m.19.5). New m.19 electrical content draws from old m.18 (two wires and socket connections), old m.5.4 (2-ohm resistance limit), and new provisions for circuit function.

This reorganization:

1. Moves pointe d’arrêt provisions to new m.20
2. Creates a dedicated electrical system article
3. Draws wire/socket content from old m.18
4. Consolidates resistance and circuit provisions

---

~~**Pointe d’arrêt and button**~~

## m.19. Épée Electrical System

**1. Electrical Wire** ~~1. The electric button is completed by a pointe d’arrêt which must conform to the following specifications. It must be easy to apply the pointe d’arrêt of the opponent’s weapon to the earth circuit connected to the blade. a. The pointe d’arrêt is cylindrical. Its front surface is flat and perpendicular to its axis. Its edge will either be rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm or have a chamfer of 0.5 mm at 45°. b. The diameter of the crown of the pointe d’arrêt is 8 mm with a tolerance of ± 0.05 mm. The diameter of the base must not be less than 7.7 mm. c. The flange (collar) which guides the pointe d’arrêt as well as the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown (it is recommended that it be reduced in diameter by 0.3–0.5 mm in relation to the crown) so that it shall not be possible to cause a hit to be registered merely by sliding the depressed pointe d’arrêt against the convex surface of the guard (cf. t.67.a).~~

1. The wires must permanently connect the pointe d’arrêt to the socket.
2. The épée must have two separate, individually insulated electrical wires.
3. Wires must be securely affixed by glue within the groove of the blade along the entire length of the blade.

**2. Wire-Socket Assembly** ~~2. The pressure required on the pointe d’arrêt in order to complete the circuit in the épée, and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 750 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point.~~

1. Each wire connects to one socket.
2. The earth circuit of the épée must be connected to the third socket.
3. Wires must have insulated sheaths that pass from the guard to the socket assembly.
4. In no case may uninsulated wires extend beyond the plug connections.
5. Each wire must be passed through the hole in the block separately and then connected to the socket terminals.

**3. Electrical Resistance** ~~3. The weight used to check competitors' épées on the piste consists of a metal cylinder drilled part of the way along its axis with a hole parallel to its sides; this hole, into which is inserted the end of the blade, must have an insulating lining to prevent its metallic parts coming into contact with the earthed mass of the épée which might then give a false result to the test. This weight of 750 g may have a tolerance of ± 3 g, i.e. 747–753 g.~~

1. The total electrical resistance of the épée must not exceed 2 ohms.
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures using an Ohm meter.

**4. Circuit Function** ~~4. a) The course or travel of the pointe d'arrêt required to complete the circuit in the épée and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, called the lighting stroke, must be greater than 1 mm. The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must be less than 0.5 mm. (This requirement is just as essential as that for the lighting stroke). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm. b. The total course or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm (cf. t.68.3). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm. c. Adjusting the lighting stroke by means of screws or any other external fixing device, once the point has been assembled on the weapon, is forbidden (cf t.44.3). d. An external screw or similar fixing device is only allowed if it is actually part of the assembling of the point. e. The head of the screw or fixing device must never project beyond the flat top surface of the point and its housing in the flat surface may not exceed 2 mm in diameter.~~

1. When the tip assembly is not depressed, the active circuit must be open.
2. When the tip assembly is depressed in accordance with this Book, the active circuit must be completed.

~~5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button at at least two points equally spaced, or by any other system approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

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**Proposal 62**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.20**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.20 "Method of affixing the button" (old m.20.1–m.20.6) describes the épée button base threading, fixing method, blade diameter, thread specifications, groove requirements, and SEMI verification authority. The restructured Article m.20 "Épée Tip Assembly" is a comprehensive article covering general construction, components, materials, dimensions, edge treatment, mounting, flange, barrel base, spring, travel, pressure, adjustment prohibition, and circuit

function. Content draws from old m.19 (pointe d'arrêt dimensions from old m.19.1, pressure from old m.19.2, travel from old m.19.4, mounting from old m.19.5) and adds new provisions for components, materials, spring, and barrel construction.

This reorganization:

1. Moves button-affixing provisions to new m.21
2. Creates a comprehensive épée tip assembly article
3. Draws pointe d'arrêt provisions from old m.19
4. Adds new component, material, and construction provisions

---

~~**Method of affixing the button**~~

**m.20. Épée Tip Assembly** ~~If the base of the button is not made in one piece with the blade, or if it does not permit the flattened inset piece at the tip of the blade to be retained, the button must be screwed onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions.~~

**1. General Construction** ~~1. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

It must be easy to apply the pointe d'arrêt of the opponent's weapon to the earth circuit.

**2. Tip Assembly Components** ~~2. The end of the blade, before cutting the thread, must not have a diameter at any point which is less than 4 mm and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.~~

A tip assembly must consist of:

1. An insulated pointe d'arrêt.
2. A flange that is smaller in diameter to the pointe d'arrêt.
3. Spring(s).
4. A barrel that is a separate hollow cylindrical body.

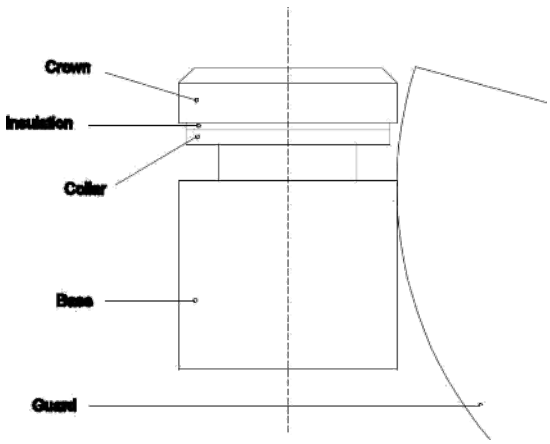



**Figure 13: Notional drawing of épée tip assembly**

**3. Tip Assembly Material** ~~3. a) The diameter of the core of thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm (thread SI 4.0 x 0.70). b) The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7–8 mm entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length, at the extremity of the blade, be threaded. For the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 4.0 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.~~

1. The components of the tip assembly must be manufactured from materials that:
   a. Provide sufficient mechanical durability under normal competitive use;
   b. Maintain consistent electrical performance as required by this Book; and
   c. Resist corrosion or degradation that could affect safety or electrical function.
2. Material specifications and approved alloys must be defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**4. Pointe d'arrêt — Dimensions and Shape** ~~4. The groove necessary to enable the wires to enter the button must be cut in such a way that it weakens as little as possible the section of the blade.~~

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical.
2. The front surface of the pointe d'arrêt is flat and perpendicular to its axis.
3. The diameter of the crown of the pointe d'arrêt must be 8 mm ±0.05 mm.

**5. Pointe d'arrêt — Edge Treatment** ~~5. Only the members of the SEMI Committee of the FIE or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.~~

The edge of the pointe d'arrêt must be either:

1. Rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm; or
2. Chamfered at 45° with a width of 0.5 mm.

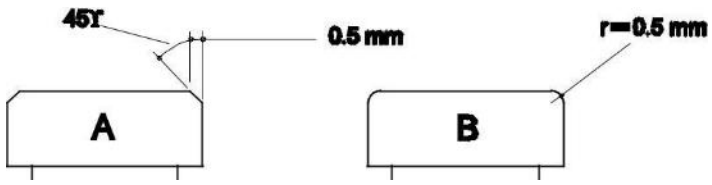



**Figure 14: Examples of épée pointe d'arrêt edge treatment**

**6. Pointe d'arrêt — Mounting**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained within the button in at least two places equidistant from each other.
2. Other methods of mounting must be approved by the SEMI Commission.

## 7. Flange Construction

1. The flange guides the pointe d'arrêt.
2. The flange and the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown.
3. The flange must be recessed in diameter between 0.3–0.5 mm in relation to the crown.
4. The flange must not allow a hit to be registered by sliding the depressed pointe d'arrêt against the convex surface of the guard.

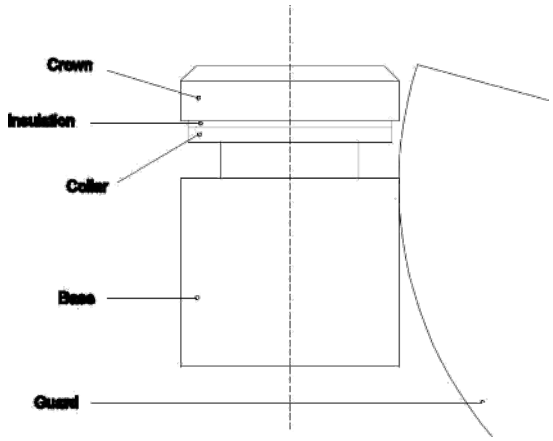



**Figure 15: Example of convex guard and épée tip hit**

## 8. Barrel Base — Dimensions

The diameter of the base (barrel) must not be less than 7.7 mm.

## 9. Spring — Construction

1. Springs must be manufactured from materials capable of maintaining their elastic properties under repeated compression during normal competitive use.
2. The spring must be capable of lifting a weight of 750 g ±2 g.

## 10. Tip Assembly — Travel

1. The travel of the pointe d'arrêt before a hit is registered must be greater than 1 mm.
2. The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must be less than 0.5 mm.
3. The total course or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm.
4. Travel must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures and the checking apparatus requirements in m.61 in the following way:
   a. The gauge must have a tolerance of a maximum of ± 0.05 mm.

## 11. Tip Assembly — Pressure

1. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt must be more than 750 to complete the circuit.

2. Pressure must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. A weight of 750 g ±3 grams must be lifted by the spring of the point d'arrêt.

**12. Tip Assembly — Adjustment Prohibition**

1. Adjusting the tip assembly by means of screws or any other external fixing device, once the point has been assembled on the weapon, is forbidden.
2. External screws or similar fixings are permitted only when they are essential for the tip assembly.
3. The head of the screw or fixing device must never project beyond the flat top surface of the point.
4. The head of the screw or fixing device must not exceed 2 mm in diameter beyond the external flat surface of the barrel.

**13. Tip Assembly — Circuit Function**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must maintain an open circuit when not depressed.
2. The circuit must be completed when the pointe d'arrêt is depressed in accordance with this Book.

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**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.21**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.21 "Length" (old m.21) contains the sabre maximum total length (105 cm). The restructured Article m.21 "Épée Blade-Tip Assembly Interface" covers the threaded interface between épée blade and tip assembly. The old m.21 sabre length moves to new m.23 "Sabre Dimensions and Weight." New m.21 interface content draws from old m.20 "Method of affixing the button": general requirement from old m.20.1; fixing method from old m.20.2; blade diameter from old m.20.3; thread diameter from old m.20.4a; blade tip length from old m.20.4b; groove from old m.20.5. "Prohibited Methods" draws from old m.20 soldering prohibition (general principle).

This reorganization:

1. Moves sabre length to new m.23
2. Creates a dedicated épée blade-tip interface article
3. Draws interface content from old m.20
4. Adds groove treatment and prohibited methods provisions

---

~~**Length**~~

## m.21. Épée Blade-Tip Assembly Interface ~~The total maximum length of the sabre is 105 cm (cf m.3).~~

### 1. General Requirement

1. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade.
2. Only fixing methods expressly permitted by this Book must be allowed.
3. The interface region is where the button is fixed to the blade.

### 2. Interface Region — Conditions

The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of either:

a. The tip assembly is made in one piece with the blade; OR

b. The blade is securely retained by the tip assembly; OR

c. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of a threaded interface in accordance with the épée weapon.

### 3. Fixing Method

1. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed.
2. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorized after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.

### 4. Minimum Blade Diameter

1. Prior to threading, the blade must not have a diameter of less than 4 mm at any point within the interface region.
2. It is forbidden to have anything wrapped around the blade at the interface region.

### 5. Threaded Core Diameter

The diameter of the core of thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm (Threading SI 4.0 x 0.70).

### 6. Threaded Blade Tip Length

1. The part of the blade on which the tip assembly is fixed must be of a length of 7–8 mm.
2. The tip assembly must fully cover the threaded length of the blade tip.

### 7. Internally Threaded Barrel Length

1. It is recommended that only the half of the internal barrel length, at the extremity of the blade, be threaded.

2. For the other half the internal barrel will have a smooth surface of 4 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.

**8. Groove Treatment**

The groove at the blade tip must cut in such a way that it weakens as little as possible the section of the blade.

**9. Prohibited Methods**

All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade and the blade tip are forbidden.

---

**Proposal 64**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.22**

**Motivation:**. The current Article m.22 “Weight” (old m.22) contains only the sabre total weight limit (500 g). The restructured Article m.22 “Sabre General Characteristics” replaces this with a sabre-specific nature statement. Old m.21 length content moves to new m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight — Maximum Total Length.”

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear sabre-specific introduction article
2. Moves the total length provision to the dedicated dimensions article (new m.23)
3. Begins the Sabre Specific Requirements section (Part 4)

---

~~**Weight**~~ **Part 4: Sabre Specific Requirements**

**m.22. Sabre General Characteristics** ~~The total maximum length of the sabre is 105 cm (cf m.3).~~

**1. Nature of the Weapon**

The sabre is a cutting and thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of contact with the edge, flat, or point of the blade upon the valid target connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

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**Proposal 65**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.23**

**Motivation:**. The current Article m.23 “The blade” (old m.23.1–m.23.4) describes the sabre blade’s steel composition, rectangular section, maximum length (88 cm), button construction, curvature limits, and flexibility requirements. The restructured Article m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight” consolidates all sabre dimensional and weight limits into one article. “Maximum Total Length” draws from old m.21 (105 cm); “Maximum Blade Length” from old m.23.1 (88 cm); “Maximum Handle Length” from old m.4.1 (17 cm for sabre); “Maximum Weight” expands old m.22 with component definitions and measurement procedures.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all sabre dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.21, blade length from old m.23.1, handle length from old m.4.1
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

---

~~**The blade (see Figure 13)**~~

**m.23. Sabre Dimensions and Weight**

**1. Maximum Total Length** ~~1. The blade, which must be of steel, is approximately rectangular in section. The maximum length of the blade is 88 cm. The minimum width of the blade, which must be at the button, is 4 mm; its minimum thickness, also measured immediately below the button, must be at least 1.2 mm.~~

The total length of the sabre, measured between Plane A and Plane E of a straight blade, must not exceed 105 cm (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

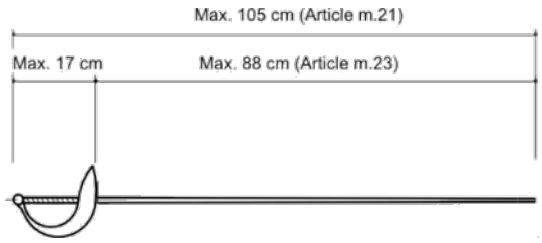



**Figure 16: Dimensions of the sabre**

**2. Maximum Blade Length** ~~2. The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself or be fashioned in one piece to form a button which, viewed end on, must have a square or~~

~~rectangular section of 4 mm minimum and 6 mm maximum. The maximum dimension must be not more than 3 mm from the end of the blade.~~

The blade length, measured between Plane A and Plane B, must not exceed 88 cm (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

**3. Maximum Handle Length** ~~3. If the blade has a curve, it must be a distinct curve which must be continuous, and the deflection must be less than 4 cm. Blades with sharply bent extremities or which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i. the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii. the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 13).~~

The maximum length of the handle is 17 cm, measured between Plane B and Plane E (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

**4. Maximum Weight** ~~4. The sabre blade must have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of minimum 4 cm and maximum 7 cm measured in the following way. a) The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the tip of the blade. b) A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is hung 1 cm from the tip. c) The curve is measured at the tip of the blade between the weighted and unweighted positions (see Figures 12 and 13).~~

1. For the purposes of sabre, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket, and insulation.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the sabre must be less than 500 g (see m.55–m.57).
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures.

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**Proposal 66**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.24**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.24 “The guard” (old m.24.1–m.24.7) describes the sabre guard’s shape, gauge compliance, socket, electrical circuit, interior and exterior insulation, and handle/pommel insulation. The restructured Article m.24 “Sabre Blade” breaks these into dedicated sub-sections. “Cross Section” draws from old m.23.1 (rectangular section); “Material” is new (references Materials Homologation Handbook); “Surface Condition” is new (hazardous surface prohibition); “Blade Width” draws from old m.23.1 (4 mm minimum width) and old m.23.2 (tip dimensions); “Blade Profile, Thickness and Tip Geometry” consolidates old m.23.1 (thickness) and old m.23.2 (button/tip construction); “Flexibility” draws from old m.23.4; “Curvature” draws from old m.23.3.

This reorganization:

1. Breaks the single blade article into dedicated sub-sections for each characteristic
2. Adds explicit material and surface condition requirements
3. Separates curvature from flexibility into distinct sub-sections
4. References Weapons Control procedures for verification

---

~~**The guard (cf. m.5)**~~

**m.24. Sabre Blade**

**1. Cross Section** ~~1. The guard must be full in shape, made in one piece and externally smooth. It must have a convex form which is continuous, without rim or holes.~~

The blade must be approximately rectangular in cross-section.

**2. Material** ~~2. It must be able to pass through a rectangular gauge measuring 15 cm by 14 cm in section, with a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel with the longitudinal axis of the gauge.~~

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Surface Condition** ~~3. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the bodywire is plugged, whatever system is used.~~

The blade must not be sharpened, ground, heated, or otherwise treated in a manner that creates a hazardous surface between the guard and the tip.

**4. Blade Width** ~~4. The two sockets of the bodywire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard, making a closed electrical circuit through the bodywire, the spool and the cable connecting the spool to the scoring apparatus.~~

The minimum width of the blade, measured at the tip, must be 4 mm (see Figure 17).

The widest section of the tip must be no more than 3 mm from Plane A.

The width of the blade at Plane A of the tip must be a minimum of 4 mm and a maximum of 6 mm.

The thickness of the blade at the base of the tip must be at least 1.2 mm.

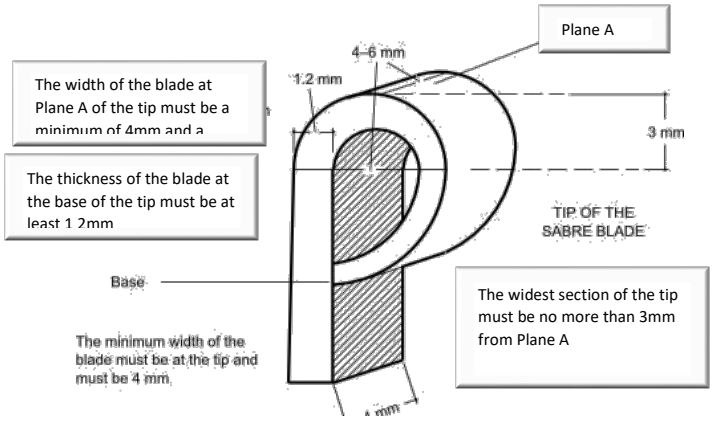



**Figure 17: Blade with dimensions**

**5. Blade Profile, Thickness and Tip Geometry** ~~5. The interior of the guard must be completely insulated by means of insulating paint or a pad.~~

1. The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself or fashioned in one piece to form the sabre tip.
2. The tip, when viewed end-on, must have a square or rectangular section.
3. The tip section must be a minimum of 4 mm to a maximum of 6 mm.
4. The maximum dimension must be located not more than 3 mm from the end of the blade (Plane A).
5. The minimum thickness of the blade, measured immediately below the tip, must be at least 1.2 mm.

**6. Flexibility** ~~6. The exterior of the guard must be insulated for 7–8 cm from the pommel.~~

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend of minimum 4 cm and maximum 7 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the tip of the blade.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance ±1 g) is suspended 1 cm from the tip.

c. The bend is measured at the tip of the blade between the weighted and unweighted positions (see Figure 18).

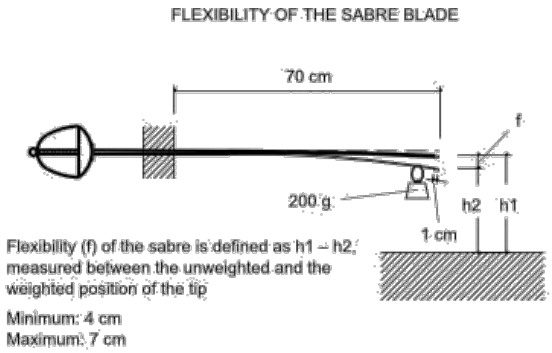



**Figure 18: Flexibility of the sabre blade**

**7. Curvature** ~~7. The handle and the pommel must be completely insulated.~~

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 4 cm.
2. The curvature of the blade must be continuous.
3. The curve must be in the vertical plane only.
4. The curve must be near the center of the blade.
5. Blades with sharply bent extremities are forbidden.
6. Blades which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden.
7. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
   b. The position of the curve is uppermost.
   c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade (see Figure 19).

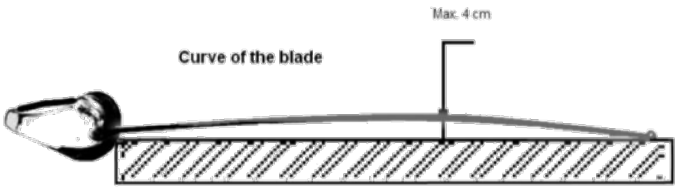



**Figure 19: Sabre blade curvature**

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**Proposal 67**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.25**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.25 refers to a chapter dedicated to equipment and clothing. The restructured Article m.25 “Sabre Guard and Guard Assembly” breaks these into ten dedicated sub-sections. “Guard Assembly” is new (defines assembly components); “Guard Geometry and Construction” draws from old m.24.1; “External Guard Surface Requirements” draws from old m.24.1 (smooth exterior); “Guard Mounting” is new; “Gauge Compliance” draws from old m.24.2; “Guard Interior Insulation” draws from old m.24.5; “Guard Exterior Insulation” draws from old m.24.6; “Socket Assembly” draws from old m.24.3; “Handle” and “Pommel” draw from old m.24.7 (split into separate sub-sections).

This reorganization:

1. Breaks the single guard article into dedicated sub-sections for each requirement
2. Adds explicit guard assembly definition and guard mounting requirements
3. Separates handle and pommel insulation into distinct sub-sections
4. References Weapons Control procedures for gauge verification

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~~**Chapter 2. Equipment and Clothing**~~

~~**General Conditions**~~

**m.25. Sabre Guard and Guard Assembly** **1.** ~~1. Protection: The equipment and clothing must provide the competitor with the maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.~~

**1. Guard Assembly**

A guard assembly must consist of:

a. The guard

b. A socket assembly

c. A handle

d. A pommel

**2. Guard Geometry and Construction** ~~2. Safety: Fencers’ clothing must be clean and in good condition and with FIE Homologation label. It must not be possible for the opponent to be obstructed or injured by the equipment, nor for it to have either buckles or openings in which the opponent’s point may be caught up — except accidentally — and thus held or deflected. The jacket and its collar must be completely buttoned or done up~~

1. The guard must be full in shape.
2. The guard must be made in one piece.
3. The guard must have a continuous convex form.

4. The guard must not have a rim.
5. The guard must not have holes.

**3. External Guard Surface Requirements** ~~3. Characteristics of the clothing: a) The national uniform includes the socks, the breeches and the jacket. b) The material from which the equipment is made must not have a surface which is smooth enough to cause the pointe d'arrêt, the button or the opponent's hit to glance off (cf. m.30). c) Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches and trousers must be made entirely in cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons. Very particular attention must be paid to the way the seams under the armpits, if there are any, are made. The fastenings of the uniform, jacket and breeches, (typically zips), must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the fastenings in the direction of the fencer's armed arm (right handed from right to left – left handed from left to right). An under-garment consisting of a protective under-plastron covering the vital upper areas of the body (following the design given in Annexe A to these Rules, 'Safety norms for manufacturers') resistant to 800 Newtons is also obligatory. d) Fencers' clothing may be of different colours, apart from black. e) There shall be only one national uniform per country with the exception that the manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different. f) Logos (national strips) worn on the national clothing must be approved by the FIE Executive Committee; they are then published on the FIE website and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions. g) For all official FIE competitions, the wearing of national strips (logos) is compulsory on both legs, optional on the arm(s) (cf. t.74.2), and the logos must be identical. The logos must be identical for all fencers of the same federation. h) The family name of the fencer must be displayed on the back of the jacket, with the abbreviation of the national federation below it, at the level of the shoulder blades. They must be printed directly onto the jacket or onto a cloth entirely sewn onto the jacket. The letters must be in dark blue, in Roman capitals, between 8 cm and 10 cm high, and each stroke must be a maximum of 1.5 cm wide. A World Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in red for the following season. An Olympic Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in gold until the end of the next Olympic Games.~~

The guard must be externally smooth.

**4. Guard Mounting** ~~4. Jacket a) At all weapons, for men and ladies, the lower edge of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm when the fencer is in the on-guard position (cf. m.28, m.34). b) The jacket must include a lining making a double thickness of material for the sleeve down to the elbow of the sword arm and covering the flank up to the region of the armpit. At épée the fencer is required to wear a regulation jacket, which covers the whole of the surface of the trunk. c) At all weapons, the use of a breast/chest protector (made of metal or some rigid material) is compulsory for women and optional for men. At foil, this breast/chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron. At foil, the protector will have the following characteristics: The entire outside of the chest protector (the side facing the opponent) must be covered with a soft material such as E.V.A. (Ethylene-vinyl acetate) of four mm thickness and density of 22kg/m3. (The material can be attached to the current plastic models or incorporated into the manufacture of new chest protectors). The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge.~~

1. The guard must be mounted and fixed between the blade and the handle.
2. The convex face of the guard is toward Plane A (the tip).

**5. Gauge Compliance** ~~5. Breeches and socks a) The breeches must be fastened below the knees. b) With breeches, the fencer must wear socks which cover the legs right up to the breeches. These socks must be held up in such a way that they cannot fall down. c) The fencer is permitted to wear socks with a 10cm turn-over showing the colours of his national team.~~

~~d) Both socks worn by the fencer must be matching – the same design and colour.~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The sabre guard must pass through a rectangular gauge of 15 cm width by 14 cm length by a depth of 15 cm.
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the gauge.

**6. Guard Interior Insulation** ~~6. Glove At all weapons, the gauntlet of the glove must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor's sword arm to prevent the opponent's blade entering the sleeve of the jacket. Under no circumstances should there be any hole in the hand of the glove, even to allow the passage of the body wire. The closure of the glove should be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb~~.

1. The interior of the guard must be completely insulated.
2. Insulation must be by means of insulating paint or a pad.
3. The insulating material must prevent electrical contact between the guard body and internal components other than the designated socket connections.

**7. Guard Exterior Insulation** ~~7. Mask~~

~~a) The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm and from wires with a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter. The mask must include two different safety systems at the rear. b) Masks, at all weapons, must be made in accordance with the safety standards described in Annexe A to these Rules and must carry the quality label specified in those standards. c) The entire mesh of the mask must be able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument, the angle of the surface of the cone being at 4° to the axis and at a pressure of 12 kg. d) The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons. e) The mask must contain two different safety systems at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the straps of the systems firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask. These straps must meet the following requirements approved by the SEMI Commission and any retro-fitting to existing masks must be carried out by the original manufacturer.~~

~~Mask with metallic tongue~~

~~• The central band (strap) should not be less than 45 mm wide.~~

~~• The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region that the position of the strap on the head ensures that the mask cannot slide off.~~

~~• The band must be in solid material : when stretched the material should not sustain permanent plastic deformation and should quickly return to its original shape and size~~

~~• The fastening system must be doubled: it must be closed with a double security system (this means that the Velcro™ has to be attached at least twice).~~

~~• The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm~~

~~• The tags to which the strap is attached by Velcro must be secured to each side of the mask with the same breaking strain.~~

~~Mask without metallic tongue~~

~~• The position of the main strap must be low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off; the correct distance should be decided by the manufacturer (typically 25/30 mm).~~

~~• The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.~~

~~• The use of a magnetic strap, already existing, remains mandatory.~~

~~Please refer to the examples in the drawings below:~~

~~These images are only provided for information. When in doubt, the wording of the relevant text prevails.~~

1. The exterior of the guard must be insulated for a distance of 7–8 cm measured from Plane E (pommel).
2. This insulation must cover the portion of the guard nearest to the handle.

**8. Socket Assembly**

The socket assembly must be positioned between the guard and the handle (see m.39 for body wire requirements and m.45).

**9. Handle**

The handle must be completely insulated.

**10. Pommel**

The pommel must be completely insulated.

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**Proposal 68**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.26**

**Motivation:** There is no single old article corresponding to the new Article m.26 “Sabre Electrical System.” Electrical provisions were previously scattered across old m.24.3 (socket inside guard) and old m.24.4 (bodywire plug direct contact and electrical circuit). The restructured Article m.26

consolidates all sabre-specific electrical requirements into a dedicated article covering circuit function, socket assembly fixation, and electrical resistance.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated sabre electrical system article
2. Consolidates electrical provisions previously scattered in old m.24
3. Adds explicit electrical resistance limit (1 ohm) with verification procedure
4. References m.45 for sabre scoring apparatus requirements

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Glove (cf. m.25)**~~

**m.26. Sabre Electrical System** ~~The glove may be slightly padded.~~

**1. Circuit Function**

The socket assembly inclusive of the body wire plugs make a closed electrical circuit through the wires to the scoring apparatus.

**2. Socket Assembly — Fixation**

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket assembly.
2. The socket assembly must contain two sockets.
3. The two sockets and the body wire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard during fencing activity.
4. The socket must not include any part which allows unintended electrical contact to be made between the plug sockets.

**3. Electrical Resistance**

1. The maximum electrical resistance allowed must not exceed 1 ohm (see m.45).
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures using an Ohm meter.

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**Proposal 69**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.27**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.27 “Mask” (old m.27, foil-specific) describes the foil mask mesh, bib conductivity, and means of connection requirements. The restructured Article m.27 “Equipment and Clothing General Requirements” replaces the foil-specific mask article with a comprehensive general requirements article for all equipment and clothing. The foil mask provisions from old m.27 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Foil). The restructured m.27 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 “General conditions” and breaks these into eight dedicated sub-sections covering Protection Standards, Safety Requirements, Material and Color Requirements, Homologation and Quality Labels, National Identification and Uniform Standards, National Logos, Name and Federation Display, and Effect of Marking on Function.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific mask article with a comprehensive general requirements article
2. Moves foil mask mesh, bib, and connection requirements to m.28 (Mask Requirements)
3. Draws general equipment and clothing provisions from old m.25 into the new Chapter 3 structure
4. Adds explicit homologation, national identification, and marking requirements as standalone sub-sections
5. Opens the new Chapter 3: Equipment and Clothing structure

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Mask (cf. m.25)**~~

## Chapter 3: Equipment and Clothing

### Part 1: General Provisions

Refers to parts, requirements, and definitions related to all equipment and clothing.

**m.27. Equipment and Clothing General Requirements 1.** ~~1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin. It must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.~~

**1. Protection Standards**

1. Equipment and clothing must provide the competitor with maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.
2. All protective equipment must meet FIE safety standards and, where required, homologation requirements (see Chapter 6, m.66-m.69).
3. The numerical resistance values and corresponding test methods are those defined in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook; compliance with those standards is mandatory for all equipment used in FIE competitions.

**2. Safety Requirements** ~~2. The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm below the chin, must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.~~

1. Fencers' clothing must be clean and in good condition.

2. Clothing and equipment must be maintained in a condition that does not compromise their protective function, structural integrity, or safety performance
3. All clothing and equipment covered by this Chapter must be worn and fastened in accordance with their approved design and any applicable FIE safety standard, so that full protective coverage is maintained during fencing.
4. All closures, including zips, buttons, hooks, straps, elastic, and hook-and-loop (Velcro) fasteners, must be fully closed or secured on the field of play and throughout each bout; a fencer must not begin or continue a bout if any required fastening is open, partially open, or otherwise not correctly secured.
5. Equipment must not include buckles or openings in which the opponent's point may be caught up — except accidentally — and thus held or deflected.
6. Equipment must not obstruct or injure the opponent beyond what results from normal, valid fencing actions (see m.2).

**3. Material Requirements and Color Requirements** ~~3. Means of connection: the electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed. The crocodile clips, the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the ends of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between the two crocodile clips) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches, and trousers must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material from which equipment is made must not have a surface smooth enough to cause the pointe d'arrêt, the tip, or the opponent's hit to glance off.
3. Seams in high-stress or vital areas, including under the arms and at the armpits, must maintain the same minimum perforation resistance as the surrounding material and must not create structural weaknesses or openings (m.69).
4. The fastenings of the uniform, jacket, and breeches (typically zips) must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the fastenings in the direction of the fencer's armed arm:
    a. Right-handed fencers: from right to left
    b. Left-handed fencers: from left to right
5. Fencers' clothing may be of different colors, apart from black.

**4. Homologation and Quality Labels**

1. All protective equipment must conform to the safety standards described in the relevant FIE safety documents and Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Equipment requiring homologation must display a valid homologation mark recognized under the applicable FIE safety standards and must be used only while that homologation remains valid.
3. Only equipment bearing valid homologation marks may be used in FIE competitions.

4. Use and validity of homologation marks are further governed by m.67-m.73

## 5. National Identification and Uniform Standards

1. For the purposes of these Rules, the national uniform consists of the jacket, breeches, and socks worn in official FIE competitions.
2. There must be only one national uniform design per country, with the exception that manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different.
3. National identification is fulfilled by the compulsory, FIE-accepted national leg logo displayed on both legs; these markings must appear on the breeches and, where applicable, on any visible sock turnover.
4. Each federation may designate only one national leg-logo design for use in official FIE competitions; that design must be identical for all fencers of the same federation in the same competition, subject only to differences in manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos.
5. Compliance with the national uniform standards may be checked at Weapons Control (see m.55-m.56)

## 6. National Logos

1. Logos worn on national clothing must be approved by the FIE Executive Committee for the federation concerned.
2. Approved national logo designs are published through official FIE channels and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions (see m.69).
3. For all official FIE competitions:

a. The wearing of national logos is compulsory on both legs.

b. National logos are optional on the arm(s).

## 7. Name and Federation Display

1. The family name of the fencer must be displayed on the back of the jacket, with the abbreviation of the national federation below it, at the level of the shoulder blades.
2. Names and abbreviations must be printed directly onto the jacket or onto cloth entirely sewn onto the jacket.
3. Letters must conform to the following specifications:

a. Color: Dark Blue (suggested colors)

| Hex | RGB | CMYK (C, M, Y, K) approx. |
|---|---|---|
| #000040 | 0, 0, 64 | 100, 100, 0, 75 |
| #000068 | 0, 0, 104 | 100, 100, 0, 59 |
| #000080 | 0, 0, 128 | 100, 100, 0, 50 |

| Hex | RGB | CMYK (C, M, Y, K) approx. |
|---|---|---|
| #00008B | 0, 0, 139 | 100, 100, 0, 45 |
| #002366 | 0, 35, 102 | 100, 66, 0, 60 |
| #003366 | 0, 51, 102 | 100, 50, 0, 60 |

b. Style: Lettering must be set in an all-capitals sans-serif typeface of normal width (not condensed), such as Arial, Aptos, Calibri, Segoe UI, Verdana, Open Sans, or an equivalent font.

c. Height: between 8 cm and 10 cm

d. Stroke width: between 6mm to a maximum 1.5 cm

4. Letter dimensions may be checked at Weapons control (see m.55-m.57)

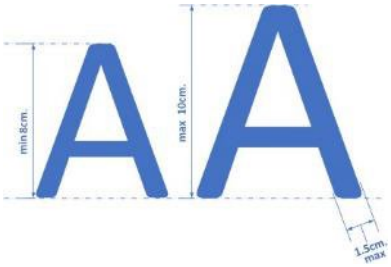



**Figure 20: Illustration of name lettering specifications**

5. The World Champion has the right to have their name and the abbreviation of their national federation printed in red for the following season.
6. An Olympic Champion has the right to have their name and the abbreviation of their national federation printed in gold until the end of the next Olympic Games.

## 8. Effect of Marking on Function

Any markings, colors, names, numbers, logos, or decorations, including paints, inks, transfers, or patches, applied to weapons, clothing, masks, or conductive pistes must not impair their safety performance or functional characteristics, including electrical conductivity and resistance limits specified in this Book.

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**Proposal 70**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.28**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.28 “Conductive jacket” (old m.28, foil-specific) describes the foil conductive over-jacket requirements, including target coverage, fastening, insulation, collar, lamé material, construction, and the non-conductive band. The restructured Article m.28 “Mask Requirements” replaces the foil-specific conductive jacket article with a comprehensive mask requirements article covering all three weapons. The foil conductive jacket provisions from old m.28 are now covered under m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements.” The restructured m.28 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 mask construction provisions and m.27 foil-specific mask provisions, and adds dedicated sub-sections for mesh specifications, bib requirements, safety retention systems, tongue configurations, dimensions, color, and weapon-specific additional requirements.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific conductive jacket article with a comprehensive mask requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves foil conductive jacket provisions to m.30 (Conductive Jacket Requirements)
3. Consolidates mask construction and safety requirements from old m.25 into dedicated sub-sections
4. Adds explicit mesh specifications, bib requirements, and safety retention system sub-sections
5. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific mask requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

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~~**Conductive jacket**~~ **Part 2: Mask**

**m.28. Mask Requirements 1.** ~~1. The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket which is worn over the protective jacket must cover the valid target of the fencer (cf. t.47) entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

**1. General Construction**

1. Masks must be constructed in accordance with the safety standards described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Masks must carry the quality label specified in those standards.
3. The mask must be made in one piece with proper structural integrity.

**2. Mesh Specifications** ~~2. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must cover a sufficient area to ensure that it covers the valid target in all positions of the fencer. The overlap must always be on the sword-arm side.~~

1. The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm.
2. The wires must have a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter.

3. The entire mesh of the mask must be able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument having:
   a. An angle of the surface of the cone at 4° to the axis.
   b. A pressure of 12 kg.

**3. Bib Requirements** ~~3. The interior of conductive jackets must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the lamé material.~~

1. The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons.
2. The bib must provide complete protection of the throat and neck area.
3. The bib must be securely attached to the mesh portion of the mask.

**4. Safety Retention Systems** ~~4. The conductive collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm and the foil conductive jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. The mask must include two different safety retention systems at the rear.
2. The two ends of the straps of the systems must be firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask.
3. Any retrofitting to existing masks must be carried out by the original manufacturer.
4. The safety retention systems must meet the requirements approved by the SEMI Commission.

**5. Mask with Metallic Tongue** ~~5. The lamé material used must be of conductive thread in both warp and weft. As regards electrical conductibility it must conform to the following requirements. a) The electrical resistance measured between any two points of the lamé material must not be greater than 5 ohms. The resistance will be measured by using a 500g conductive metal weight which has a hemispherical end with a radius of 4 mm. This weight, placed on this end and moved about on the lamé, must maintain continuous contact with a maximum resistance of 5 ohms. b) In no circumstances must the use of a conductive jacket be allowed if it has holes in it, or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit.~~

1. The central band (strap) must not be less than 45 mm wide.
2. The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region to ensure that the mask cannot slide off the head during fencing actions.
3. The band must be of solid material: when stretched, the material must not sustain permanent plastic deformation and must quickly return to its original shape and size.
4. The fastening system of the band must comply with all of the following:
   a. It must use a double security system, meaning that the Velcro™ must be attached at least twice.
   b. The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm.

c. The strap must be secured to each side of the mask by tags to which it is attached by Velcro™, and those tags must have at least the same minimum breaking strain.

**6. Mask without Metallic Tongue** ~~6. The conductive jacket must be so made that when it is laid flat there is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium).~~

1. The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.
2. The main strap must be positioned low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off the head during fencing actions.

**Figure 21: Mask with metallic tongue**

3. Where a magnetic strap system is part of the approved design, the use of the magnetic strap remains mandatory.




**Figure 22: Mask without metallic tongue**

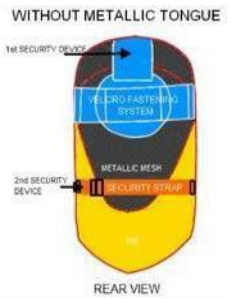



**7. Dimensions and Fit** ~~7. The band of non-conductive material passing between the legs must be at least 3 cm wide (see Figure 14).~~

1. The mask must provide complete coverage of the head, face, and neck during all fencing positions.
2. The mask must fit securely without excessive movement during fencing actions.
3. The dimensions must conform to the standards specified in this Book and to the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**8. External Color and Color Designs**

Masks may feature colored designs on condition that they are approved by the FIE Executive Committee.



**9. Additional Requirements — Foil**

1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin.
2. The mask must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.
3. The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5–2 cm below the chin must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.
4. The electrical contact between the mask and the conductive jacket must be maintained throughout all fencing actions.
5. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other crocodile clip.
6. See m.37 for specific foil wire details.

**10. Additional Requirements — Sabre**

1. The entire mesh, bib of the mask, joined areas, and edges must be conductive.
2. The conductive surface must cover all valid target areas of the head as defined in the competition rules.
3. The mask must maintain electrical continuity with the conductive jacket.
4. The electrical contact between the mask and the conductive jacket must be maintained throughout all fencing actions.
5. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other crocodile clip.
6. See m.38 for specific sabre wire details.

**11. Additional Requirements — Epee**

1. The mask must not be conductive.

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**Proposal 71**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.29**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.29 “Bodywire and attachment plugs” (old m.29, foil-specific) describes the foil bodywire insulation, plug construction, pin assignments, crocodile clip specifications, and guard-end attachment. The restructured Article m.29 “Jacket Requirements” replaces the foil-specific bodywire article with a comprehensive jacket requirements article for all weapons. The foil bodywire provisions from old m.29 are now covered under m.37 “Bodywire and Connection Requirements — Foil.” The restructured m.29 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 jacket and clothing provisions and consolidates jacket construction, material specifications, fastening, seam construction, and épée-specific requirements into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific bodywire article with a comprehensive jacket requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves foil bodywire and plug provisions to m.37 (Bodywire and Connection Requirements — Foil)
3. Consolidates jacket construction and coverage requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material specifications, fastening, and seam construction sub-sections
5. Includes épée-specific jacket requirements as a dedicated additional requirements sub-section

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Bodywire and attachment plugs**~~ **Part 3: Jacket**

**m.29. Jacket Requirements 1.** ~~1. a) The conductive wires of the bodywire must be well insulated electrically from each other, twisted or joined together, and not be affected by humidity. b) This bodywire has a connecting plug which must be made of a transparent material at each end. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire. c) The electrical resistance of each of these conductive wires (plug to plug and plug to crocodile clip) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

**1. Jacket General Requirements**

1. The lower edge of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm when the fencer is in the on-guard position.
2. The jacket must include a lining making a double thickness of material for:
   a. The sleeve down to the elbow of the sword arm
   b. The flank up to the region of the armpit
3. The jacket must be constructed to allow full freedom of movement while maintaining protective coverage.

**2. Material Specifications** ~~2. a) At the spool end the three-pin male plug, which must comply with the conditions of manufacture and assembly laid down in Article m.55, will be attached to the wires in the following manner: the pin at 15 mm from the centre pin to the conductive jacket; the central pin to the wire in the weapon; the pin at 20 mm from the centre pin to the foil earth circuit or the conductive piste. b) The wire which joins the rear connection of the bodywire to the conductive jacket by a crocodile clip must be separate for at least 40 cm. This wire must be soldered to the crocodile clip and this soldering must not be covered by any insulation or any material whatsoever. However, any method of fixing which presents the same guarantees as soldering may be used, provided it has been accepted by the SEMI Committee. c) The crocodile clip must be robust and ensure perfect contact with the conductive jacket. Its width at the point of contact must be at least 10 mm; the inside of the clip must leave a free space at least 8 mm long by 3 mm high. It must be clipped onto the back of the conductive jacket on the sword-arm side.~~

1. The jacket must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material must comply with the safety standards and test methods described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Rules.

**3. Fastening Requirements** ~~3. a) At the end nearest the foil, inside the guard, any method of attachment is allowed but the method adopted must always conform to the specification laid down in Article m.5. b) In addition, the pins of the plug must in no circumstances be able to touch the metal part of the guard.~~

1. The jacket must be capable of being completely closed.
2. The collar must be capable of being completely fastened.

**4. Seam Construction**

1. Seams must be constructed to maintain the 800 Newton resistance standard.

**5. Additional Requirements — Épée**

1. At épée, the fencer is required to wear a regulation jacket which covers the whole of the surface of the trunk.
2. The jacket must provide complete coverage of the valid target area as defined in the competition rules.
3. No conductive surface is required for épée jackets.

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**Proposal 72**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.30**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.30 “Mask” (old m.30, épée-specific) describes the épée mask prohibition on conductive material and the bib shape requirement. The restructured Article m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements” replaces the épée-specific mask article with a comprehensive conductive jacket requirements article for all weapons. The épée mask provisions from old m.30 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements.” The restructured m.30 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.28 foil conductive jacket provisions and m.34 sabre conductive jacket provisions, and consolidates coverage, material, construction, electrical resistance, and weapon-specific requirements into six dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the épée-specific mask article with a comprehensive conductive jacket requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves épée mask provisions to m.28 (Mask Requirements)

3. Consolidates foil conductive jacket requirements from old m.28 and sabre conductive jacket requirements from old m.34 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material requirements, construction requirements, and electrical resistance sub-sections
5. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific conductive jacket requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

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~~**Rules Specific to Epee**~~

~~**Mask**~~

**m.30. Conductive Jacket Requirements** ~~1. The mask must not be covered, in whole or in part, by conductive material or material which can cause the point to glance off (cf. m.25).~~

**1. General Coverage**

1. The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket, which is worn over the protective jacket, must cover the valid target of the fencer entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position.
2. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must cover a sufficient area to ensure that it covers the valid target in all positions of the fencer.
3. The overlap must always be on the sword-arm side.
4. The interior of conductive jackets must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the conductive lamé material.

**2. Conductive Jacket — Material Requirements** ~~2. The mask must be so shaped that the bib reaches below the prominences of the collar bones (clavicles).~~

1. The lamé material used must be of conductive thread in both warp and weft.
2. Holes or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit is forbidden.

**3. Conductive Jacket — Construction Requirements**

1. The jacket when laid flat is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium).
2. The band of non-conductive material passing between the legs and is fixed to the lower edge of the back of the jacket must be at least 3 cm wide.
3. The conductive collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm.

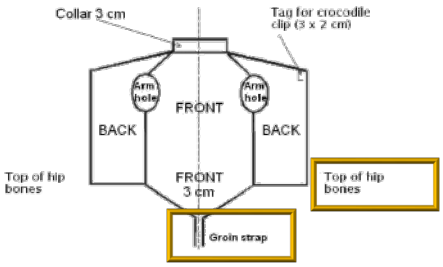



**Figure 23: Conduct jacket illustration**

## 4. Conductive Jacket — Electrical Resistance

1. The electrical resistance measured between any two points of the conductive material must not be greater than 5 ohms +1 ohm.
2. Electrical resistance must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The resistance will be measured by using a 500 g conductive metal which has a hemispherical end with a radius of 4 mm.
   b. This weight, placed on this end and moved about on the lamé, must maintain continuous contact with a maximum resistance of 5 ohms +1 ohm.

## 5. Additional Requirements — Foil

1. The foil conductive jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.
2. Including as mentioned in t. 77

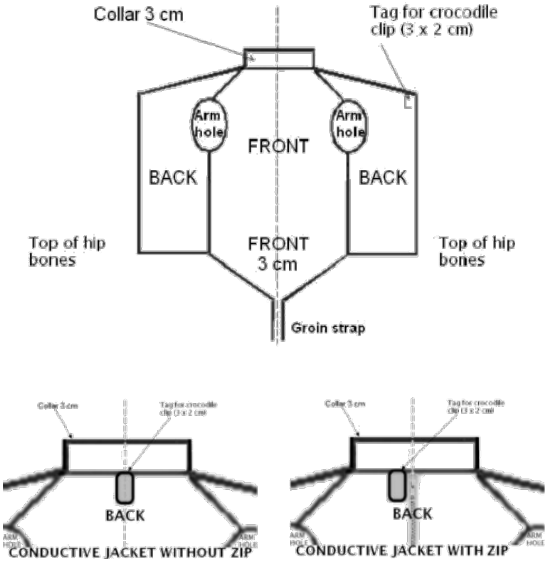



**Figure 24: Foil conductive jacket details**

## 6. Additional Requirements — Sabre

1. The conductive jacket or conductive sleeveless over-jacket must cover the valid target entirely.
2. The valid target includes the area above a horizontal line across the top of the folds formed by the fencer's thighs and trunk when in the on-guard position.
3. Sleeves must reach to the middle of the hand when the sword arm is extended and the hand is in the position of the sixte parry.
4. The conductive material must cover the entire arm.
5. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must overlap sufficiently to cover the target in all fencing positions.
6. The overlap must be on the sword-arm side and must not extend below the horizontal line defining the valid target.

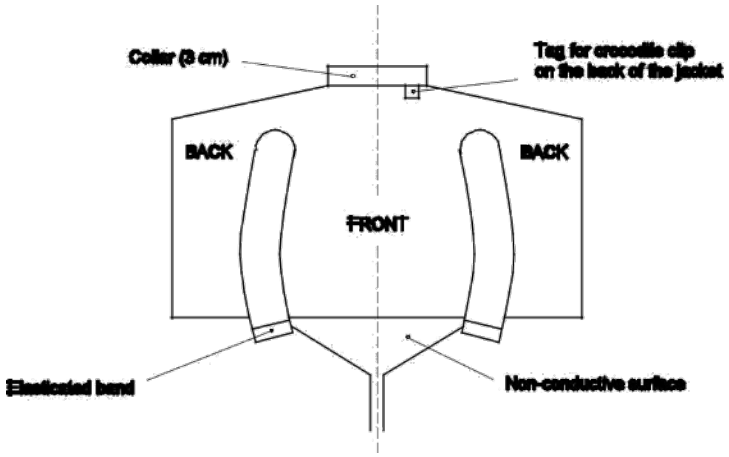



**Figure 25: Sabre conductive jacket**

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**Proposal 73**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.31**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.31 “Bodywire” (old m.31, épée-specific) describes the épée bodywire wire insulation, plug construction, pin assignments, guard-end attachment, and insulating sheath requirements. The restructured Article m.31 “Breeches Requirements” replaces the épée-specific bodywire article with a dedicated breeches requirements article. The épée bodywire provisions from old m.31 are now covered under m.38 “Épée Body Wire.” The restructured m.31 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 breeches and clothing provisions and consolidates breeches construction, material specifications, and length and fastening requirements into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the épée-specific bodywire article with a dedicated breeches requirements article
2. Moves épée bodywire provisions to m.38 (Épée Body Wire)
3. Consolidates breeches requirements from old m.25 clothing provisions into a single article
4. Adds explicit material specifications and length and fastening sub-sections

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**~~Bodywire~~ Part 4: Breeches**

**m.31. Breeches Requirements** ~~1.a) The conductive wires of the bodywire must be well insulated from each other, insensitive to humidity, and either joined or twisted together. b) The maximum electrical resistance allowed for each of these conductive wires from plug to plug is 1 ohm.~~

**1. Material Specifications** ~~2. The bodywire has a connecting plug which must be made of a transparent material at each end. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire.~~

1. The breeches must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material must comply with the safety standards and test methods described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Rules.

**2. Length and Fastening** ~~3. At the spool end, a three-pin male plug is connected to the wire as follows: a. the pin 15 mm from the centre pin to whichever wire is most directly connected to the pointe d'arrêt; b. the centre pin to the other wire on the épée; c. the pin 20 mm from the centre pin to the épée's earth circuit and to the conductive piste.~~

1. The breeches must be fastened below the knees.
2. The fastening system must be secure and must not come undone during competition.
3. The breeches must overlap with socks to ensure complete leg coverage.

~~4. This plug must conform to the conditions of manufacture and mounting specified in Article m.55.~~

~~5. Inside the guard the choice of system is free but the system chosen must comply with the conditions of Article m.5.~~

~~6. In addition, the pins of the plug must not on any account permit contact with the metal of the guard.~~

~~7. The two wires coming from the tip must be protected by two insulating sheaths, one for each wire, from the point where they enter the guard right up to the two insulated connections on the plug socket. In no case may uninsulated wires extend beyond the plug connections (cf. m.5, m.9).~~

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**Proposal 74**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.32**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.32 “Mask” (old m.32, sabre-specific) describes the sabre mask conductivity, bib covering, trim, electrical contact, and resistance requirements. The restructured Article m.32 “Glove Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific mask article with a comprehensive glove requirements article for all weapons. The sabre mask provisions from old m.32 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.32 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 and m.33 glove provisions and consolidates coverage, construction, material, and weapon-specific requirements into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific mask article with a comprehensive glove requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves sabre mask provisions to m.28 (Mask Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates glove requirements from old m.25 and m.33 into a single article
4. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific glove requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

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~~**Rules Specific to Sabre**~~

~~**Mask**~~ **Part 5: Glove**

**m.32. Glove Requirements** ~~1. The metal mesh of the mask must not be insulated and must ensure electrical conductivity.~~

**1. General Coverage Requirements**

1. At all weapons, the gauntlet (cuff) of the glove must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor’s sword arm.
2. The glove must prevent the opponent’s blade from entering the sleeve of the jacket.
3. The gauntlet (cuff) must maintain this coverage and protective function throughout all fencing actions.

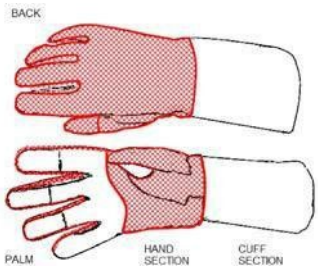



**Figure 26: Section of the glove**

**2. Construction Standards** ~~2. The bib and any trim must be entirely covered with conductive material with the same electrical characteristics as the conductive jacket.~~

1. Any hole in the hand of the glove is forbidden.
2. The closure of the glove must be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb.
3. The glove must be constructed so that seams, closures, and materials do not tear, split, or fail under normal fencing conditions.

**3. Material Requirements** ~~3. The trim may also be made of conductive material.~~

1. The glove must provide protection consistent with the clothing resistance standards specified in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook for the relevant weapon and area.
2. Under normal fencing conditions, the glove material and seams must not allow penetration or tearing that compromises protection of the hand or forearm

**4. Additional Requirements — Foil** ~~4. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with another crocodile clip. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.~~

1. The glove may be slightly padded.
2. Padding, if present, must not alter the fit or compromise the security of the glove.

**5. Additional Requirements — Sabre** ~~5. The electrical resistance between the crocodile clip and any point on the mask must be less than 5 ohms. The crocodile clips, the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the ends of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between the two crocodile clips) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Where the glove forms part of the valid target, it must provide electrical continuity so that hits on the hand register correctly in accordance with the scoring rules for sabre.
2. The material of the fencing glove must have a level of protection of 800 N on the areas shown in the applicable diagram (see Figure 27) ; the seams must have a minimum strength of 200 N, and the cuff must have a level of protection of 350 N.

3. The conductive material, which can be removable or fixed, must cover all of the gauntlet (cuff) of the glove down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the on-guard position and when the sword arm is straight.
4. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet (cuff) to a depth of at least 5 cm.
5. An elastic band, popper button, or any system which guarantees conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI Committee must be used.
6. When a conductive overlay is worn, the overlay must contain a device which fixes its position on the arm so that its position cannot be changed during the bout.
7. The conductive material must satisfy the specified control conditions (see m.30.2).

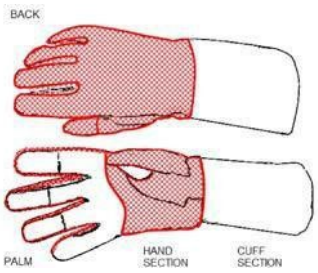



**Figure 27: Shaded areas requiring 800N for sabre gloves**

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**Proposal 75**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**
**Article m.33**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.33 “Glove” (old m.33, sabre-specific) describes the sabre glove protection levels, conductive material coverage, gauntlet depth, contact guarantee systems, and lamé control conditions. The restructured Article m.33 “Under-Plastron Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific glove article with a dedicated under-plastron requirements article. The sabre glove provisions from old m.33 are now covered under m.32 “Glove Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.33 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 under-plastron provisions and consolidates mandatory use, coverage design, material specifications, and construction requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific glove article with a dedicated under-plastron requirements article
2. Moves sabre glove provisions to m.32 (Glove Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates under-plastron requirements from old m.25 into a single article

4. Adds explicit coverage design, material specifications, and construction requirements sub-sections

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## ~~Glove~~ Part 6: Under-plastron

**m.33. Under-plastron Requirements** ~~1. The material of the fencing glove must have a level of protection of 800N on the areas shown in the diagram below, the seams a minimum strength of 200N and cuff a level of protection of 350N. The conductive material, which can be removable or fixed, must cover all of the gauntlet of the glove down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the 'on-guard' position and when the sword arm is straight. Inside the glove there must be fixed the FIE quality label, granted after the homologation procedure, with the year of manufacture and stating 800N.~~

### 1. Mandatory Use

1. An undergarment consisting of a protective under plastron is obligatory for all fencers at all weapons.
2. The under plastron must be worn beneath the jacket.

### 2. Coverage Design ~~2. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet to a depth of at least 5 cm.~~

1. The under-plastron must cover the vital upper areas of the body.
2. The coverage must follow the design given in this Book and Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The under-plastron must provide protection for:
   a. The torso.
   b. The sword-arm shoulder and upper arm.
   c. The armpit region of the sword arm

### 3. Material Specifications ~~3. In order to guarantee a good contact with the sleeve of the conductive jacket, it is necessary to use an elastic band, a popper button or any system which will guarantee conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI Committee. When a conductive overlay is worn, the overlay must contain a device which fixes the position of the overlay on the arm so that its position on the arm cannot be changed during the bout.~~

1. The under-plastron must be made of material resistant to 800 Newtons.
2. The material must provide protection consistent with the clothing resistance standards specified in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The under-plastron must maintain its specified protective properties throughout its service life under normal fencing conditions.

**4. Construction Requirements** ~~4. The conductive tissue (lamé) must satisfy the specified control conditions (cf m.28.5)~~

1. The under-plastron must be constructed without openings or gaps that could compromise protection.
2. Seams must be constructed to maintain the 800 Newton resistance standard.
3. The under-plastron must fit securely without shifting during fencing actions.

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**Proposal 76**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.34**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.34 “Conductive jacket” (old m.34, sabre-specific) describes the sabre conductive over-jacket coverage, arm coverage, collar, fastening, lamé testing, sleeve fixation, and leg strap requirements. The restructured Article m.34 “Chest Protector Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific conductive jacket article with a dedicated chest protector requirements article. The sabre conductive jacket provisions from old m.34 are now covered under m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.34 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 chest protector provisions and consolidates mandatory and optional use, construction standards, material and design requirements, and foil-specific requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific conductive jacket article with a dedicated chest protector requirements article
2. Moves sabre conductive jacket provisions to m.30 (Conductive Jacket Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates chest protector requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit foil-specific additional requirements sub-section for surface treatment

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~~**Conductive jacket**~~ **Part 7: Chest Protector**

**m.34. Chest Protector Requirements** ~~1. The fencer must wear, over his jacket, a conductive over-jacket, the conductive surface of which must cover entirely and without omission the valid surface of the body above a horizontal line which, when the fencer is on guard, joins, round the fencer’s trunk, the tops of the two hip bones.~~

**1. Mandatory and Optional Use**

1. At all weapons, the use of a chest protector is:
   a. Compulsory for women.

b. Optional for men.

2. The chest protector must be worn in accordance with weapon-specific requirements set out in this Book and in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**2. General Construction Standards** ~~2. The conductive surface must cover the arms as far as the wrists. The jacket must have a collar which is at least 3 cm high. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm x 3 cm in the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. The chest protector must be made of material capable of distributing impact force.
2. The chest protector must fit securely and must not shift during fencing actions.
3. The chest protector must not impede freedom of movement necessary for fencing.

**3. Material and Design Requirements** ~~3. Whatever means of fastening is used, the conductive material must be ample enough to guarantee covering the valid target area in any position.~~

1. The rigid material must withstand the impact of normal weapon strikes without cracking or deforming in a way that reduces protection.
2. The design must provide the required protection without creating bulk that interferes with proper fencing movements or the fit of other protective clothing.
3. The chest protector must be worn in the correct position to protect the vital upper areas of the body.

**4. Additional Requirements — Foil** ~~4. The conductive material (lamé) must satisfy the conditions laid down for testing (cf. m.28).~~

1. At foil, the chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron / under-plastron.
2. A surface treatment for foil chest protectors is required to prevent the chest protector from causing non-valid hits to register on the scoring apparatus.
3. The surface treatment for foil chest protectors:
   a. Must consist of a soft material such as ethylene-vinyl acetate (E.V.A.) covering the entire surface of the chest protector on the side facing the opponent.
   b. The E.V.A. material must have a thickness of 4 mm and a density of 22 kg/m³.
   c. The material must be either attached to the chest protector or incorporated into it as a single unit.
   d. The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge.

~~5. The sleeves of the conductive jacket must be fixed at the wrist by means of an elastic band. There must be a strap passing between the fencer's legs to keep the jacket in place (see Figure 15).~~

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**Proposal 77**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.35**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.35 “Bodywire and plugs” (old m.35, sabre-specific) states that the sabre fencer must use the foil bodywire configuration. The restructured Article m.35 “Sock Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific bodywire reference with a dedicated sock requirements article. The sabre bodywire provisions from old m.35 are now covered under m.39 “Sabre Body Wire.” The restructured m.35 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 sock and clothing provisions and consolidates length and coverage, fastening, uniform standards, and turn-over allowances into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific bodywire reference with a dedicated sock requirements article
2. Moves sabre bodywire provisions to m.39 (Sabre Body Wire)
3. Consolidates sock requirements from old m.25 clothing provisions into a single article
4. Adds explicit uniform standards and turn-over allowances sub-sections

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~~**Bodywire and plugs**~~ **Part 8: Socks**

**m.35. Sock Requirements** ~~1. The fencer must use the bodywire specified for foil, plugged into the guard plug socket by means of any system which conforms with the conditions for manufacture and assembly laid down in Articles m.5, m.29 and m.55.~~

**1. Length and Coverage Requirements**

1. With breeches, the fencer must wear socks which cover the legs right up to the breeches.
2. There must be no gap between the top of the socks and the bottom of the breeches.
3. The socks must provide complete coverage of the lower leg.

**2. Fastening Requirements**

1. Socks must be held up in such a way that they cannot fall during competition.
2. The fastening system (elastic, garters, or other means) must be secure and reliable.
3. Socks must maintain their position during all fencing actions.

**3. Uniform Standards**

1. Both socks worn by the fencer must match the same design and color.
2. Socks must conform to the national uniform standards set out in Article m.26.5 and in this Book.

**4. Turn-Over Allowances**

1. The fencer is permitted to wear socks with a 10 cm turn-over showing the colors of their national team.
2. If a turn-over is worn, it must be consistent on both legs (see m.27.5-m.27.6).

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**Proposal 78**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.36**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.36 “Checking of Material Competence” (old m.36) describes the SEMI Committee’s supervision of electrical material checking at World Championships and Olympic Games, committee appointment, and right of seizure. The restructured Article m.36 “Body Wire Requirements — General” replaces the material competence checking article with a comprehensive general body wire requirements article applicable to all weapons. The material competence checking provisions from old m.36 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.36 draws its content from the common bodywire provisions across old m.29, m.31, and m.35 and consolidates general construction, electrical resistance standards, plug and socket requirements, and testing compliance into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the material competence checking article with a comprehensive general body wire requirements article
2. Moves material competence checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates common bodywire requirements from old m.29, m.31, and m.35 into a single article
4. Adds explicit electrical resistance standards, plug and socket requirements, and testing compliance sub-sections

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~~**Chapter 3. Checking of Material Competence**~~ **Part 9: Body Wire and Electrical Connections**

**m.36. Body Wire Requirements — General** ~~1. The checking of the electrical material used by the organisers for the World Championships (Open, Junior and Cadet) and the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games, as well as the checking of the fencers’ equipment, must be supervised by the SEMI Committee.~~

**1. General Construction**

1. The conductive wires of the body wire must be insulated electrically from each other.
2. Wires must be twisted or joined together and must not be affected by humidity.

3. Any external sheath or covering of the body wire must be made of white-colored or clear material.
4. The body wire must be constructed to withstand repeated flexing and use.
5. The body wire must maintain electrical integrity throughout its length during all fencing actions.

**2. Electrical Resistance Standards** ~~2. To carry out this supervision, three members of the above-mentioned Committee must be appointed and put in charge of this work. However, when the organising country possesses somebody competent, recognised as such by the SEMI, two members of the above Committee will be appointed.~~

1. The electrical resistance of each conductive wire (plug to plug) must not exceed 1 ohm.
2. Body wires that exceed the resistance limit must not be used in competition.
3. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Plug and Socket Requirements** ~~3. The delegates of the SEMI Committee of the FIE have the right at any time to seize a weapon, a bodywire, a conductive jacket or any item of equipment or clothing for examination.~~

1. The body wire must have a connecting plug at each end (see weapon-side socket requirements in m.8, m.17 and m.25, and Chapter 4).
2. Plugs must be made of transparent material to allow visual inspection.
3. If no securing device is fitted on the weapon-side socket assembly, a securing device must be fitted on the corresponding plug of the body wire.
4. The securing device must prevent the body wire from becoming accidentally unplugged during the bout while still allowing deliberate disconnection when not fencing.

**4. Testing and Compliance**

1. The body wire must be tested in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Any body wire that does not meet the resistance requirements must not be used in competition.

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**Proposal 79**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.37**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.37 “Checking of Fencers’ Equipment” (old m.37) describes fencer responsibility for equipment, label of guarantee requirements, checking procedures, and committee appointments for equipment checking. The restructured Article m.37 “Foil Body Wire” replaces the

fencers' equipment checking article with a dedicated foil body wire requirements article. The equipment checking provisions from old m.37 are now covered under Chapter 5 "Weapons Control." The restructured m.37 draws its content from the old M Book's m.29 foil bodywire provisions and consolidates body wire configuration, earth wire to conductive jacket connection, and mask-to-jacket connection wire into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the fencers' equipment checking article with a dedicated foil body wire requirements article
2. Moves equipment checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates foil bodywire requirements from old m.29 into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit mask-to-jacket connection wire sub-section

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~~**Checking of Fencers' Equipment**~~

**m.37. Foil Body Wire** ~~1. In all official FIE competitions the fencers are responsible for their equipment (including weapons and clothes) at the moment they present themselves on the piste.~~

**1. Body Wire Configuration**

1. The foil body wire must have three conductors.
2. At the spool end, the three-pin male plug will be attached to the wires in the following manner:
   a. The pin at 15 mm from the center pin: to the conductive jacket.
   b. The central pin: to the wire in the weapon.
   c. The pin at 20 mm from the center pin: to earth.
3. At the weapon end, the two-pin plug is attached:
   a. One pin: to the weapon wire.
   b. One pin: to earth (guard/blade).

**2. Earth Wire to Conductive Jacket Connection** ~~2. In particular blades, masks and clothing must all carry the label of guarantee specified in the safety standards annexed to these Rules.~~

1. The earth wire with a crocodile clip must connect the body wire to the conductive jacket.
2. The crocodile clip must be soldered to the wire.
3. The electrical resistance in this connection must not exceed 1 ohm.
4. The crocodile clip design and size must conform to specified conditions in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Mask-to-Jacket Connection Wire** ~~3. The forms of checking laid down by these Rules are only intended to help organisers who must apply the Rules and fencers who must always~~

~~respect these Rules. These checks can, therefore, in no way absolve any fencers who break the Rules from responsibility.~~

1. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a wire with two crocodile clips:
   a. One crocodile clip attaches to the conductive flap on the back of the jacket.
   b. The other crocodile clip attaches to the conductive bib of the mask.
2. This wire must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long.
3. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.
4. The electrical resistance between the two crocodile clips must not exceed 1 ohm.
5. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

~~**Body responsible for checks**~~

~~4. The Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint the member(s) of the SEMI Committee to be responsible for the checking of weapons, clothing and equipment of the fencers at the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games and for the World Championships.~~

~~5. For other official FIE competitions the Organising Committee will appoint one or more persons to be responsible for this checking.~~

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**Proposal 80**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.38**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.38 “Presentation of equipment to the Weapon Checking Centre” (old m.38) describes fencer obligations for equipment presentation, submission procedures, checking timelines, delegation responsibilities, defective weapon handling, mask safety enforcement, equipment return, and conductive jacket marking. The restructured Article m.38 “Épée Body Wire” replaces the equipment presentation article with a dedicated épée body wire requirements article. The equipment presentation provisions from old m.38 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.38 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.31 épée bodywire provisions and consolidates épée body wire configuration and épée-specific connection requirements into two dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the equipment presentation article with a dedicated épée body wire requirements article
2. Moves equipment presentation provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates épée bodywire requirements from old m.31 into a single dedicated article
4. Specifies that épée does not require conductive clothing connection

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~~**Presentation of equipment to the Weapon Checking Centre**~~

**m.38. Épée Body Wire** ~~1. Fencers are obliged to present themselves at the Weapon Checking Centre, at the time advised in the timetable of each official competition of the FIE, with the equipment they intend to use during the event in question. The number of articles handed to the Checking Centre is limited to four weapons, three bodywires, two conductive jackets, two masks and three mask-to-jacket leads per fencer. To make the checking of weapons easier and allow the complete observation of the tip and its base, foil fencers must present their foils at the weapon control with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm.~~

**1. Épée Body Wire Configuration**

1. The épée body wire must have three conductors.
2. At the spool end, the three-pin male plug is connected in the standard configuration:

a. One pin: to the first weapon wire (connected to tip).

b. One pin: to the second weapon wire (connected to tip).

c. One pin: to earth (the guard and blade).

3. At the weapon end, the three-pin plug connects to the socket assembly inside the guard:

a. Two pins connect to the two wires from the tip assembly

b. One pin connects to earth (the guard and blade)

**2. No Conductive Clothing Connection — Épée** ~~2. Each competitor must submit his weapons in a fencing bag at the Weapon Checking Centre reception. An inventory of the equipment is made by an organising official and a label is put on the bag, indicating the name of the country of the competitor. The bags are stored in the order in which they arrive, and are checked in the same order.~~

1. The épée body wire does not require connection to any conductive clothing.
2. The body wire connects only to the weapon and to the spool.

~~3. Provision should be made for weapons and clothing to be submitted on the morning of the day before the competition. Having been checked, the material will be returned to the delegations at the end of the day. Weapons, equipment and clothing presented to the Checking Centre after 5 p.m. on the day before each event may be refused.~~

~~4. Each head of delegation must indicate where he can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to his fencers is being checked.~~

~~5. If a weapon is found to be defective at the first check a form is attached indicating the fault: e.g. the length of the blade, the insulation, the spring of the point, cutting edges, etc. This form is completed at the second check. However, when a weapon is rejected, it must go through the entire cycle again.~~

~~6. A mask which does not comply with the safety requirements laid down in this article will be rendered visibly unusable by the weapon checking personnel or the Referee in the presence of~~

~~the person who presented the mask to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned.~~

~~7. The fencers or the team captain can only insist on the return of the equipment which has been checked one hour before the start of the event.~~

~~8. A conductive jacket which is considered to be unusable will be so marked with a very visible coloured paint by a member of the FIE SEMI Commission.~~

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**Proposal 81**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.39**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.39 (old m.39) states that if material or equipment appears to have been assembled to control hit registration or cause apparatus malfunction, the SEMI Committee representative may require a penalty. The restructured Article m.39 “Sabre Body Wire” replaces the penalty provision with a dedicated sabre body wire requirements article. The penalty provision from old m.39 is now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.39 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.35 sabre bodywire provisions and the common foil bodywire structure, and consolidates sabre body wire configuration, guard socket requirements, earth wire to conductive jacket connection, and mask-to-jacket connection wire into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the material assembly penalty provision with a dedicated sabre body wire requirements article
2. Moves the penalty provision to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates sabre bodywire requirements from old m.35 and common foil structure into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit guard socket requirements and mask-to-jacket connection wire sub-sections

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~~**Checking of Fencers’ Equipment**~~

**m.39. Sabre Body Wire** ~~1. If material or equipment presented to the Checking Centre appears to have been assembled in such a way that the fencer can control at will the registering of hits or the malfunctioning of the judging apparatus, the representative of the SEMI Committee may, after the examination of the irregular items, require a penalty against the person who submitted them.~~

**1. Sabre Body Wire Configuration**

1. The sabre body wire must have three conductors and is similar in construction to the foil body wire.
2. At the weapon end, the plug connects to the socket assembly inside the guard.

3. When attached to the spool and weapon, the body wire must maintain electrical contact with the guard of the weapon.

**2. Guard Socket Requirements**

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the body wire is plugged.
2. The socket assembly must ensure reliable electrical contact during all fencing actions.
3. The socket assembly must be secured to prevent disconnection during the bout.

**3. Earth Wire to Conductive Jacket Connection**

1. The body wire must maintain electrical continuity between the scoring apparatus and the conductive surfaces (weapon and jacket).
2. The two sockets of the body wire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard, making a closed electrical circuit through:
   a. The body wire.
   b. The spool.
   c. The cable connecting the spool to the scoring apparatus.

**4. Mask-to-Jacket Connection Wire**

1. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a wire with two crocodile clips.
   a. One crocodile clip attaches to the conductive flap on the back of the jacket.
   b. The other crocodile clip attaches to the mask.
2. This wire must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long.
3. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.
4. The electrical resistance between the two crocodile clips must not exceed 1 ohm.
5. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

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**Proposal 82**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.40**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.40 (old m.40) is a check-marks header article with no substantive content. The restructured Article m.40 “General Provisions - Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure” replaces this empty header with a comprehensive scope, definitions, and reference documents article for the entire scoring apparatus chapter. The restructured m.40 establishes the organizational

framework for Chapter 4, defining key terms and cross-referencing the Materials Homologation Handbook.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces an empty header article with a substantive general provisions article for Chapter 4
2. Establishes clear scope covering central scoring apparatus, connection systems, pistes, power supplies, and display systems
3. Provides formal definitions for key technical terms used throughout the chapter
4. Adds reference document and technical specifications amendment provisions

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## Chapter 4: Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure

## Part 1: Scope, Definitions and Reference Documents

### m.40. General Provisions - Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure (all weapons)

**1. Scope**

1. This Chapter covers the requirements for:
a. Central scoring apparatus (m.42–m.45).
b. Connection systems, including spools, cables, and suspended systems (m.48–m.49).
c. Conductive pistes (m.50).
d. Source of electrical current (m.51).
e. Extension lamps and display systems (m.52–m.53).
2. These provisions apply to all official FIE competitions and are recommended for all fencing venues using electrical scoring equipment.

**2. Definitions**

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms apply:

1. Central scoring apparatus: The electrical device that receives signals from the fencers' weapons via connection systems and indicates valid and non-valid hits through visual and audible signals.
2. Extension lamps: External light signals placed outside the central apparatus to increase visibility of hit registration for referees, fencers, and spectators.
3. Display board / Central display apparatus: Electronic scoreboard displaying fencers' names, scores, time, period, and penalty cards, required for finals and higher-level competition rounds.
4. Prototype: A complete sample apparatus (including spools, connections, and all ancillary equipment) submitted for examination and approval by the SEMI Committee prior to use in official FIE competitions.
5. Homologation: The formal approval process for equipment and materials as specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook, separate from event-specific apparatus approval.

6. Connection system: The complete electrical path from the central apparatus to the fencer, including spools or suspended cables, connecting cables, plugs, sockets, and safety devices.
7. Conductive piste: The metallic or conductive surface covering the fencing area, used to neutralize hits made on the floor in foil and sabre.

### 3. Reference Documents

1. The functional and construction requirements of this Chapter are complemented by the Materials Homologation Handbook, which contains detailed numerical tolerances, test methods, and conformity assessment procedures for scoring apparatus and related equipment.
2. Where this Chapter specifies performance requirements, the Materials Homologation Handbook specifies how conformance is verified

### 4. Technical Specifications Amendments

The SEMI Committee can propose variances in the timing specifications for any apparatus in the light of experience, laboratory tests, and consultation with other Commissions.

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**Proposal 83**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.41**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.41 (old m.41) describes check mark requirements for checked equipment and repair procedures. The restructured Article m.41 “Authorization of Apparatus” replaces the check mark requirements article with a comprehensive apparatus authorization article. The check mark provisions from old m.41 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.41 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.44 (authorised designs), m.46–m.49 (approval scope, identification, disclaimer, costs) provisions and consolidates authorized apparatus designs, scope of approval, identification, disclaimer, and cost provisions into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the check mark requirements article with a comprehensive apparatus authorization article
2. Moves check mark provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates authorization, approval scope, identification, and cost provisions from old m.44–m.49 into a single article
4. Adds explicit disclaimer of guarantee and costs of examination sub-sections

**m.41. Authorization of Apparatus (all weapons)** ~~1. The items of equipment which have been thus checked will be distinctively marked. A fencer must not, on pain of penalties (cf. t.120), use any equipment which does not bear this check mark.~~

**1. Authorized Apparatus Designs**

1. Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorized.
2. Apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorized by the SEMI are permitted.
3. Apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only, are excluded.

**2. Scope of Approval** ~~2. Any repairs to equipment rejected during the checking can be carried out in the repair workshop. Repaired equipment will, however, only be tested again after the first set of checks of the other fencers' equipment has been completed.~~

1. Apparatus approval is design-specific; the manufacturer is responsible for ensuring that all apparatus supplied for competition conform to the approved design and meet all technical requirements at the time of use.
2. The SEMI Committee is willing to examine prototypes submitted by constructors even if not intended for an imminent official competition.
3. Approval is given only for one established design which conforms to the drawing submitted, not as a general approval for all products made by any manufacturer.
4. Manufacturers may state in publicity only that the design has been used at a specific official competition, but they must guarantee the apparatus conforms to the approved design.

**3. Identification and Liability**

1. Every approved apparatus must carry, on its base, a metallic plate identifying its specific characteristics (manufacturer, year of manufacture, model, technical information).

**4. Disclaimer of Guarantee**

Approval by the SEMI Committee and its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction or use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators.

**5. Costs of Examination**

All expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus.

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**Proposal 84**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.42**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.42 (old m.42) describes the personnel and equipment required for checking weapons at competitions, including gauge specifications, testing devices, and workshop team organization. The restructured Article m.42 “Core Functional and Safety Requirements of Apparatus” replaces the checking personnel article with a comprehensive functional and safety requirements article for all scoring apparatus. The personnel and equipment checking provisions from old m.42 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.42 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.50–m.51 (requirements for electrical equipment) provisions and consolidates hit registration, visual signals, power supply, clock, remote control, and audible signal requirements into fifteen dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the checking personnel and equipment article with a comprehensive apparatus functional requirements article
2. Moves personnel and equipment checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates apparatus functional requirements from old m.50–m.51 into a single article
4. Adds explicit clock resolution, VRS time output, referee remote control, and audible signal failsafe sub-sections

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~~**Personnel and equipment required for checking**~~

**m.42. Core Functional and Safety Requirements of Apparatus (all weapons)** ~~1. In order to allow those carrying out the checking to fulfil their task, the organisers are required to make available the equipment and the personnel necessary to carry out the work.~~

**1. Registration and Non-registration of Hits**

1. A hit made on the conductive piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus.
2. Such hits may not prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent.

**2. Protection Against Unauthorized Interruption** ~~2. The Organising Committee must provide the FIE technical delegates responsible for checking the weapons and equipment with at least the following apparatus: a. Two gauges allowing the lengths of blades and the depths and diameters of the guards at all weapons to be measured quickly. b. Devices for measuring the flexibility of blades and the resistance of the mesh of masks. c. An electrical checking device to check quickly the electrical resistance and that the bodywire and the weapon are correctly assembled. d. Weights of 750 g and 500 g to test the springs of the points in épée and foil, in the workshop and at each piste. e. A device allowing the lighting stroke and residual travel of épée points to be accurately measured, in the workshop and at each piste. f. Labels to~~

~~indicate that a weapon has been checked and that it satisfies the regulation, or has been rejected. g. In the world championships and Olympic Games the control of blades by Foucault current is mandatory. h. The organisers must provide a special stamp to be affixed to each conductive jacket to enable the referees to verify that its resistance in ohms has been checked by the technical delegates of the FIE. i. A special ink or paint must be provided to mark the guards, blades and points of weapons which have been checked. Nevertheless, those responsible may use other methods to mark the weapon and conductive jackets.~~

The apparatus must not have any device whereby anyone other than the person detailed to supervise it can interrupt its working during a bout.

### 3. Visual Signals

1. The apparatus should have a pilot light to show that it is switched on. This light must be dim and colorless.
2. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be visible to the Referee, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made.
3. Signal lamps may be fitted with translucent covers. These covers must be removable to allow the use of uncovered lights when venue conditions require it, such as strong sunlight or outdoor competition.
4. It must be possible to attach extension lamps to the exterior of the apparatus to increase the visibility of the signals.

### 4. Signal Persistence

1. Signal lamps, once activated, must remain lit until the apparatus is reset.
2. Signals must not extinguish or flicker due to subsequent hits or vibrations.

### 5. Reset Controls

The resetting switches must be placed either on top of or on the front part of the apparatus.

### 6. Power Supply

1. Apparatus must always be equipped with a socket to allow it to be powered either by 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.
1. Apparatus must be based on a 12 volt supply with a tolerance of ±5%.
2. If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment.
3. The wiring must be designed so that apparatus cannot become connected by mistake directly to the mains supply.

### 7. Integrated Clock and Score Display

1. Each central scoring apparatus used in official competitions must include an integrated match clock and score display (see m.43-m.45).
2. The clock and score display form part of the functional configuration of the apparatus for the purposes of approval and use.
3. The clock and score display must be clearly visible at all times to:
    a. The Referee.
    b. Both fencers.
    c. Coaches and team officials in the field of play area.
    d. Spectators in the competition hall.
4. Visibility must be ensured under normal indoor lighting conditions and under enhanced lighting used for finals and television production.
5. Any external scoreboard or display board used in addition to the central scoring apparatus must reproduce, without modification, the match time and scores generated by the approved apparatus.

**8. Clock Resolution and Measurement Capability**

1. The match clock must be capable of measuring and internally tracking time in units of one hundredth of a second for the entire duration of each bout and team relay
2. The internal time base stability and precision tolerances are specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. Any user visible display that presents the official bout time (on the central apparatus or on external display boards) must reproduce the time generated by this clock without applying independent rounding or filtering operations

**9. Time Output to Video Refereeing System (VRS)**

1. The central scoring apparatus must provide an electronic time output to the official Video Refereeing System.
2. The time output to the VRS must carry the current match time expressed in hundredths of a second, synchronized with the internal match clock described in this Book (m.42).
3. The time output interface, format, and update rate must comply with the specifications defined in the applicable Materials Homologation Handbook and any technical handbooks for scoring apparatus and video systems.
4. When the match clock is started, stopped, or reset, the corresponding state change must be reflected in the time output to the VRS without undue delay or loss of events, within the tolerances specified in the technical handbooks

**10. Last Ten Seconds Display Behavior**

During the last ten (10) seconds of each period in an individual bout and of each bout in a team match, the official match clock must change its display resolution to provide enhanced time indication.

1. The clock must show time to a tenth of second when the scoring apparatus is running

2. The clock must show time to a hundredth of second when the scoring apparatus is stopped
3. The timer should be provided with a remote start/stop device.

## 11. Clock Extensions for Finals

1. For finals of official FIE competitions, the clock must be equipped with:
    a. A system connecting it to external extension clocks displaying large luminous numbers
    b. A system for connection of the audible signal
2. These connection systems must be electrically isolated from the internal circuits of the apparatus in accordance with the specifications in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The clock and remote control must operate the match clock defined in m.42.

## 12. Referee Remote Control- General Requirements

1. The match clock of the central scoring apparatus must be controlled by a remote control device intended for the Referee.
2. The remote control must provide a single, clearly identifiable control for the combined start–stop function of the match clock; no additional timing or reset functions may be assigned to the remote.
3. The remote control must be equipped with a visible LED indicator that confirms the operational status of the device and each transmitted command.
4. The design of the remote control must minimize the risk of accidental activation, taking into account typical Referee gestures and handling during a bout, as further specified in the applicable technical handbook

## 13. Referee Remote Control- Radio Communication

1. The communication between the Referee's remote control and the match clock must operate via encrypted radio frequencies.
2. The radio protocol, frequency bands, encryption requirements, and coexistence rules with other wireless systems in the venue must comply with the specifications defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook and with all applicable regulatory requirements.
3. The radio link must be sufficiently robust that loss of connection, interference, or low battery conditions cannot cause unintended clock start or stop; any such fault conditions must default to a safe state defined in the technical handbooks

## 14. Audible Signals

1. Visual signals must be accompanied simultaneously by audible signals.
2. The audible signals will consist either of a short ring, or of a continuous note.
3. Duration must be automatically limited to one to two seconds.
4. The sound signal must be identical for both sides of the apparatus.

5. The apparatus may include a device which allows the sound signal to be stopped before the apparatus is reset.

**15. Audible Signal Failsafe**

When the cable connecting the audible-signal apparatus to the clock is disconnected:

1. The audible-signal apparatus must emit a sound of 80–100 decibels measured at the piste center line.
2. Duration must be 2–3 seconds.
3. The central judging apparatus must not be blocked.
4. The clock must not be stopped. (t.32)

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**Proposal 85**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.43**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.43 (old m.43) describes workshop team procedures for checking weapons and equipment, specifying team composition and roles for dimension checks, electrical tests, and marking. The restructured Article m.43 “Foil Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the workshop procedures article with a dedicated foil-specific central judging apparatus article. The workshop procedures from old m.43 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.43 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B foil apparatus specifications and consolidates foil apparatus function, hit registration, visual signals, sensitivity, resistance tolerance, lockout operation, and testing requirements into seven dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the workshop team procedures with a dedicated foil central judging apparatus article
2. Moves workshop checking procedures to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates foil-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit sensitivity, resistance tolerance, lockout operation, and testing sub-sections

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**m.43. Foil Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. To carry out the checks properly and rapidly, ‘workshop’ teams of three people should be used. (At least three such workshops should be provided.)~~

## 1. Foil Apparatus Main Function

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for foil must comply with the following:

1. At foil, the apparatus registers when a break occurs in the circuit of the foil.
2. The electrical current which is circulating permanently in the foil circuit is broken when a hit is made.

## 2. Foil - Registration of Hits ~~2. The first person checks that all the weapons are normal with respect to their dimensions by passing them through a gauge.~~

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus.
2. A hit made on a part of the foil may register if an uninsulated part of the weapon of the fencer is in contact with his conductive jacket.
3. After registering a hit, whether on target or off target, the apparatus must no longer be able to register a subsequent hit on the same side of the apparatus.
4. No priority must be indicated between a hit registered against one competitor and a hit registered against his opponent.

## 3. Foil - Visual Signals ~~3. The second does all electrical tests.~~

1. Hits are registered by light signals:

a. A red signal on one side when a hit is registered on target;

b. A green signal on the other when a hit is registered on target;

c. White signals on either side will indicate hits off the target.

2. At foil, when using the apparatus it should be noted that:

a. If a non-valid hit has been scored, the apparatus will not register a possible valid hit scored on the same side of the apparatus.

b. The apparatus does not indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.

3. Yellow lamps serve only to indicate insulation faults (see m.43.5)

## 4. Foil - Sensitivity and Signal Registration ~~4. The third affixes the checking marks and replaces the weapons in the fencing bag.~~

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus. The duration of the break of contact which must always ensure that a signal is registered is 14 ms ± 1 ms
2. Depending on the increase in the resistance, the apparatus may register:

a. A valid hit only.

b. A valid hit and a non-valid hit simultaneously.

c. A non-valid hit only.

d. The resistance must always be less than 500 ohms for (a) and (b).

3. The contact time is the same for valid and non-valid hits.
4. The registering of a valid hit must be guaranteed when there is a break of contact of 14 ms ± 1 ms, when the exterior resistance is between 0 and 500 ohms.
5. A break of contact of 14 ms ± 1 ms must always ensure that a signal is registered, when the exterior resistance is between 0 and 200 ohms.

## 5. Foil - Resistance Tolerance and Fault Conditions

1. The apparatus must be capable of tolerating an increase in the resistance in the closed circuit of the foils of up to 200 ohms, without causing a non-valid signal to register.
2. Even if the resistance of the foil earth circuit is increased up to 100 ohms, none of the following irregular phenomena must occur:

a. Hits are registered on the guard or on the piste;

b. Hits must not be registered merely by contact of the blade or the pointe arrêt (without depressing it) on the conductive jacket of either competitor.

3. When the blades are in contact, irrespective of the resistance in ohms between them, the apparatus must be capable of registering normally the hits exchanged, valid and non-valid.
4. Even if a fault in the insulation causes a short between a fencer's conductive jacket and weapon, the apparatus must still register both valid and non-valid hits.
5. The apparatus must be equipped with two yellow lamps:

a. The yellow lamp must light up and remain lit when the resistance between a fencer's conductive jacket and weapon is less than 450 ohms

b. The yellow lamp must not light up when this resistance exceeds 475 ohms.

6. If one or both of the yellow lamps remain lit, the Referee must stop the bout and call the technical experts to eliminate the fault.
7. The yellow lamps need not indicate any contact between the fencer's conductive jacket and the conductive piste.

## 6. Foil Lockout Operation

1. After the first hit is signaled, the apparatus must ignore all subsequent signals once the lockout period of 300 ms (± 25 ms) has elapsed.
2. This lockout period is a fixed technical interval unrelated to "fencing time" under the conventions of foil fencing.

## 7. Foil Testing and Authorization

1. Test programs for foil apparatus are defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. The Congress of the FIE has authorized this Committee to modify or add to the above requirements whenever technical improvements allow the construction of apparatus which can ensure the better operation of the electrical foil judging apparatus.

**Proposal 86**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.44**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.44 (old m.44) provides an introduction listing all electrical judging equipment provided by competition organisers, including the central apparatus, spools, conductive piste, power supply, and clock. The restructured Article m.44 "Épée Central Judging Apparatus" replaces the general equipment introduction with a dedicated épée-specific central judging apparatus article. The general equipment listing provisions from old m.44 are now covered under m.40 (General Provisions). The restructured m.44 draws its content from the old M Book's Annex B épée apparatus specifications and consolidates épée apparatus function, visual signals, resistance and timing, and lockout operation into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the general equipment introduction with a dedicated épée central judging apparatus article
2. Moves general equipment listing to m.40 (General Provisions)
3. Consolidates épée-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit visual signals, resistance and timing, and lockout operation sub-sections

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~~**PART 2. FITTINGS AND MATERIAL PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISERS**~~

~~**Introduction**~~

**m.44. Épée Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. All electrical judging equipment includes, in addition to the equipment provided by the fencers themselves, the material provided by the organisers of a competition, which is:~~

**1. Épée Apparatus Main Function**

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for épée must comply with the following:

1. At épée, the apparatus registers when contact is established between the wires forming the circuit in the épée, thus completing the circuit.

**2. Épée - Visual Signals** ~~2. The central judging apparatus, with extension lamps (cf. m.51, m.59, Annexe B);~~

1. Visual signals include at least two signal lamps on each side of the apparatus, so designed that if one lamp does not function it does not prevent the other from lighting up nor cause an excessive current through the latter.
2. The signal lamps must give a red signal on one side of the apparatus and a green signal on the other.
3. The apparatus may include lights which indicate short circuits to earth. These must be orange in color.

**3. Épée - Apparatus Resistance and Timing** ~~3. The spools, with cables and connections, or cables suspended overhead (cf. m.55);~~

1. The apparatus must register only the first hit which is made when the active circuit is completed (see m.20 for tip assembly travel requirements).
2. If the interval between two hits is less than 40 ms, the apparatus must register a double hit, with both signal lamps lighting simultaneously.
3. If the interval between two hits is greater than 50 ms, the apparatus must register only one hit.
4. The apparatus must not register hits made on earthed material (guard or conductive piste), even when the resistance of the earth circuit is up to 100 ohms.

**4. Épée - Lockout Operation** ~~4. The conductive piste which neutralises hits made on the ground (cf. m.57);~~

1. When the external resistance is normal, that is 10 ohms, the apparatus must register hits when these are made with a duration of contact of 2–10 ms.
2. With an exceptional external resistance of 100 ohms the apparatus must still register a hit, but without any specific duration of contact.
3. The apparatus must not register signals of less than 2 ms duration.

~~5. The source of electrical current should be 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA (valve-regulated lead-acid) batteries (cf. m.58).~~

~~6. For finals of official competitions of the FIE, a clock which counts down the time and which can be linked to the apparatus which controls the audible signal and the electrical registering of hits (cf. m.51, Annexe B).~~

~~7. The wireless apparatus is optional at the Veteran World Championships.~~

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**Proposal 87**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.45**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.45 (old m.45) describes the authorised designs for electrical scoring apparatus, specifying that only wired apparatus with light signals are permitted, with wireless encoded-wave systems also allowed by the SEMI. The restructured Article m.45 “Sabre Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the authorised designs article with a dedicated sabre-specific central judging apparatus article. The authorised designs provisions from old m.45 are now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.45 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B sabre apparatus specifications and consolidates sabre apparatus function, visual signals, resistance and timing, lockout operation, and timing adjustment into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the authorised designs article with a dedicated sabre central judging apparatus article
2. Moves authorised designs provisions to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates sabre-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit visual signals, resistance and timing, lockout operation, and timing adjustment sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 1. SCORING APPARATUS Authorised designs**~~

**m.45. Sabre Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting the fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorised, except for apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorised by the SEMI. This excludes other apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only.~~

**1. Sabre Apparatus Main Function**

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for sabre must comply with the following:

1. The apparatus works by contact between any uninsulated part of the sabre and the conductive surface of the opposing fencer’s jacket, glove and mask.

**2. Sabre - Visual Signals**

1. For hits made on these valid conductive surfaces, the apparatus shows a red light on one side and a green light on the other.
2. If the guard or blade of a fencer’s sabre is in contact with the conductive surface of his own equipment (signaled by a yellow light), a valid hit made by that fencer must still register.

3. The apparatus must be equipped with two yellow lamps, one on each side, which will indicate a contact between the guard or blade of a fencer's sabre and the conductive surface of his own equipment.
4. The apparatus must be equipped with two white lamps, identical to those on a foil apparatus which, if permanently illuminated, accompanied by a sound signal, indicate any abnormal electrical change in circuits B and C of the fencer at fault.
5. Hits made on non-conductive surfaces must not be signaled.

## 3. Sabre - Apparatus Resistance, Faults, and Timing

1. When the two blades touch, all the other rules should be strictly applied.
2. The apparatus should still function when the blades are in contact, or if there is contact between the blades and the guards, or between the two guards.
3. The apparatus must not signal a hit made by the blade whipping over to hit the opponent while in contact with his blade or guard.
4. After a hit has been registered, a subsequent hit made by the other fencer will only be registered if it occurs within a maximum of 170 ms ± 10 ms.
5. The apparatus should allow an increase in the exterior resistance of the connections up to 100 ohms without any drawbacks.
6. Should a fault in the insulation, down to 0 ohms, cause a leakage of current between a fencer's valid conductive surface and his weapon, the apparatus should still be capable of registering all hits exchanged.
7. The insulation fault will be signaled by the illumination of the yellow lamp on the side of the fencer whose equipment is at fault when the resistance is between 0 and 450 ohms.
8. The registering of a valid hit on the guard or blade of the fencer at fault will be allowed provided that the electrical resistance between the guard or the blade and the valid surface is less than 250 ohms.
9. Should there be a hit made by the whipping over of the blade which has not been signaled, whatever method has been used to prevent the signaling, after 15 ms ± 5 ms from the contact of the blade with the valid target (the time for the registering of the whip) and unless there has been another hit, the apparatus should allow the normal registering of any subsequent hits.
10. A break in the control circuit (defined as more than 250 ohms) for 3 ms ± 2 ms will be signaled by the illumination of the white lamp on the side of the fencer at fault.

## 4. Sabre - Lockout Operation

1. The duration of contact during which a signal should be ensured should be 0.1–1 ms.
2. An apparatus will be rejected if a hit can be registered with a duration of contact of less than 0.1 ms (time subject to modification)
3. If the contact between the blade and the opponent's target takes place 'through the blade', the apparatus:

a. Will register the hit between 0 and 4 ms (+ 1 ms);

b. Will prevent the hit being registered between 4 and 15 ms (+ 5 ms), on condition that the contact between the two blades is not interrupted more than a maximum of 10 times in the interval.

**5. Sabre - Timing Adjustment**

Timing for the apparatus may be varied in the light of experience and of laboratory tests carried out by the SEMI Committee.

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**Proposal 88**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.46**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.46 (old m.46) describes the approval procedure for judging apparatus designs, requiring SEMI Committee approval for World Championship and Olympic Games apparatus, submission of complete apparatus for examination at least six months before competition, and detailed construction drawings. The restructured Article m.46 “Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions” replaces the approval procedure article with a comprehensive apparatus selection article covering all levels of FIE competitions. The approval procedures from old m.46 are consolidated with selection requirements into three dedicated sub-sections covering general selection conditions, World Championship apparatus, and Olympic Games apparatus.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the approval procedure article with a comprehensive apparatus selection article
2. Consolidates apparatus selection requirements for all FIE competition levels
3. Separates World Championship and Olympic Games apparatus requirements into distinct sub-sections
4. Adds explicit provisions for manufacturer selection and equipment homologation

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~~**Approval of designs of apparatus**~~

**m.46. Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions** ~~1. Judging apparatus for use in a World Championship or the Olympic Games must have been approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

**1. Apparatus Selection Conditions**

1. For official FIE competitions, the organizing committee must provide a minimum number of electrical judging apparatuses equal to the number of pistes plus at least two spares.
2. The Organizing Committee must choose a manufacturer who will provide good quality equipment for smooth technical running of competitions.

3. For official FIE competitions, all scoring equipment must be in working order and homologated by the SEMI Committee.
4. As soon as a member federation is selected to organize an official FIE competition, it should contact the President of the SEMI Committee immediately to obtain names of manufacturers whose electrical apparatus is accepted by the Committee for use at their level of competition.

**2. Apparatus for World Championships** ~~2. In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by the said Committee, at a place and on a date to be agreed with the Committee, at least six months before the date of the competition.~~

1. Judging apparatus for World Championships must be approved for use at the World Championship level.
2. List of approved apparatus for World Championship level competitions can be requested from the SEMI.

**3. Apparatus for Olympic Games** ~~3. The apparatus must be accompanied by a detailed drawing showing its construction.~~

1. Judging apparatus for the Olympic Games must be approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.
2. In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by a designated team of the SEMI Committee, at a place and on a date to be agreed with by the Committee, at least six months before the start date of the competition.
3. The apparatus must be accompanied by technical documentation, including but not limited to detailed drawings, CAD files, and be submitted digitally to the SEMI Commission and the FIE Office.

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**Proposal 89**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.47**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.47 (old m.47) states that approval is given for the use of apparatus in one specific official competition only, and that the SEMI Committee is willing to examine prototypes submitted by constructors even outside of imminent official competitions. The restructured Article m.47 “Apparatus Checking Procedures” replaces the competition-specific approval article with a comprehensive apparatus checking procedures article. The competition-specific approval provision from old m.47 is now covered under m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions). The restructured m.47 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.52–m.53 (checking of apparatuses) provisions and consolidates prototype approval procedures and pre-competition testing into two dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the competition-specific approval article with a comprehensive apparatus checking procedures article
2. Moves competition-specific approval provisions to m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions)
3. Consolidates apparatus checking procedures from old m.52–m.53 into a single article
4. Adds explicit prototype approval procedures and pre-competition testing sub-sections

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**m.47. Apparatus Checking Procedures** ~~1. Approval is given for the use of the apparatus in one specific official competition only. The SEMI Committee is willing, as far as it is able, and without charge, to examine prototypes of apparatus submitted by constructors even if the use of such apparatus is not envisaged for an imminent official competition.~~

**1. Prototypes Approval and Procedures**

1. In the case of using a prototype for a World Championships or a FIE competition:
   a. Having chosen the manufacturer, the Organizing Committee must immediately advise the President of the SEMI Committee.
   b. The President contacts the firm to obtain, as soon as possible, a prototype of the desired model.
   c. Control of fencing apparatuses must be done before competition using a checking device able to verify that apparatuses fulfill all requirements related to reaction times and electrical resistances.
2. The report on checking is presented to the manufacturer by the President of the Committee within one month of the apparatus being received.
3. Two possibilities exist:
   a. The proposed apparatus is accepted, in which case other apparatuses can be manufactured like the prototype.
   b. The apparatus does not conform to requirements, in which case it must be modified and re-submitted for new examination.
4. When all apparatuses are ready and before they are sent out, the President of the SEMI Committee must be notified for documentation of checking before they leave the factory.
5. Each apparatus comes with a test report giving specifications concerning:
   a. Registering time in milliseconds
   b. Resistance in ohms of external circuits before registering a non-valid hit
6. The person in charge of verification ticks off every apparatus and makes a note of its number.

**2. Testing and Checking of Apparatus**

1. A specific program of tests for an apparatus under different conditions can be supplied on request by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.
2. A specific program of tests also includes the checking of the functioning of the apparatus including but not limited to timing, lockout, lamp functionality.
3. Before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organizing Committee must check:
   a. Proper working of apparatuses to be used.
   b. That they conform to the type registered. This is independent of the registration of the type of apparatus.
4. The apparatuses must be made available to this delegate at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.

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**Proposal 90**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.48**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.48 (old m.48) specifies that approval is given for only one established design of apparatus conforming to the submitted drawing, not as a general approval for all products by any manufacturer, and that every approved apparatus must carry a metallic identification plate. The restructured Article m.48 “Spools and Cables” replaces the established design and identification article with a dedicated connection systems article. The established design and identification plate provisions from old m.48 are now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.48 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.55 (spool and cable specifications) provisions and consolidates electrical resistance requirements, cable length and safety features, plug specifications, and alternative connection systems into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the established design and identification article with a dedicated spools and cables article
2. Moves established design approval and identification plate provisions to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates spool and cable specifications from old m.55 into a single article
4. Adds explicit resistance requirements, safety features, plug specifications, and alternative systems sub-sections

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## Part 2: Connection Systems

### m.48. Spools and Cables

**1. Electrical Resistance Requirements** ~~1.Approval is given for only one established design of apparatus which conforms to the drawing submitted, and is not given as a general approval for all the products made by any manufacturer. The latter may state in their publicity only the fact that the design of apparatus which they offer for sale has been used at a specific official competition (if this in fact is the case); but they themselves must guarantee that the apparatus conforms to the design for which approval was given.~~

1. The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket, must be 3 ohms + 1 ohm.
2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being rotated at full speed
3. Contact rings of the spool must have double brushes.
4. The wire connected to the earth circuit of the weapon must be connected to the frame of the spool.

**2. Cable Length and Safety Features** ~~2. Every approved apparatus must carry, on its base, a metallic plate identifying its specific characteristics: manufacturer, year of manufacture, model, technical information, etc.~~

1. The spools must allow 20 m of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.
2. The socket which terminates the spool cable and receives the plug of the body wire at the fencer's back must include a safety device which fulfills the following requirements:
   a. It is impossible to use it unless the plug is correctly put in.
   b. It is impossible for it to become separated during the bout.
   c. It is possible for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.

**3. Connecting Cables and Plug Specifications**

1. The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.
2. The plugs used to connect the body wire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spools and to the apparatus must have:
   a. Three pins of 4 mm diameter arranged in a straight line.
   b. Outer pins are spaced 15 mm and 20 mm respectively, from the center pin.
3. The body wire and the connecting cables have plugs; the spool wires and the central electrical apparatus have sockets.

**4. Alternative Connection Systems**

The use of suspended cables instead of spools is permitted, provided that the conditions already mentioned are satisfied.

**Proposal 91**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.49**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.49 (old m.49) states that the approval of an apparatus by the SEMI Committee as well as its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction, or against its use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators. The restructured Article m.49 “Installation Requirements” replaces the approval disclaimer with a dedicated installation requirements article. The disclaimer provision from old m.49 is now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.49 draws its content from the old M Book’s installation and spool placement provisions and consolidates cable length, spool placement, connecting cable construction, and grounding requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the approval disclaimer with a dedicated installation requirements article
2. Moves the approval disclaimer provision to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates installation and spool placement requirements into a single article
4. Adds explicit cable length, spool placement, connecting cable construction, and grounding sub-sections

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**m.49. Installation Requirements** ~~The approval of an apparatus by the SEMI Committee as well as its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction, or against its use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators (cf. m.58).~~

**1. Cable Length**

The organizers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.

**2. Spool Placement**

The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.

**3. Connecting Cable Construction**

1. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three-core type.
2. They must be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.

**4. Grounding the Pistes**

Conductive pistes should be earthed at the center of the piste.

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**Proposal 92**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.50**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.50 (old m.50) states that all expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus. The restructured Article m.50 “Conductive Pistes” replaces the expenses article with a comprehensive conductive pistes article. The expenses provision from old m.50 is now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.50 draws its content from the old M Book’s conductive pistes chapter and consolidates material and resistance, coverage, platform mounting, length and extensions, base construction, piste lines, and safety/testing requirements into seven dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the expenses article with a comprehensive conductive pistes article
2. Moves the expenses provision to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates conductive piste specifications from the old M Book’s Chapter 3 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material, coverage, platform, length, base construction, lines, and safety sub-sections

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## Part 3: Infrastructure Components

**m.50. Conductive Pistes** ~~1. All expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus.~~

**1. Material and Resistance**

1. The conductive piste must be made from metal, metallic mesh, or a substance that is conductive.
2. The piste must maintain conductivity once positioned and ready for fencing.
3. The resistance of the piste, from one end to the other, must not exceed 5 ohms.

**2. Coverage Requirements**

The conductive piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions.

### 3. Platform-Mounted Pistes

1. When the piste is mounted on a platform, the conductive piste must cover the whole width of the platform.
2. The platform must not exceed 50 cm in height.
3. The platform must be wider than the fencing piste itself by at least 25 cm on each side.
4. Each end of the podium must be equipped with a gentle slope right down to ground level.

### 4. Length and Extensions

1. Because the amount of wire which spools can carry is limited, the conductive piste is designed for use on a piste 14 m long.
2. An extension of 1.5–2.0 m is added at each end of the piste to allow the fencer crossing the rear limits to retire on an even and unvarying surface.
3. The conductive piste must have a length of 17–18 m.

### 5. Platform Base Construction

1. The wooden bases are 12–15 cm above ground level.
2. The sides must not be sloping.
3. Must have a metal strip, screwed down if possible, which will keep down the edges of the conductive piste along the entire length of the base on both sides.
4. Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.

### 6. Piste Lines and Indicators

The paint used to draw lines on the conductive piste must not prevent its electrical conductivity.

### 7. Safety, Maintenance and Testing Requirements

1. There must be no roller or any sort of obstacle at the ends of the conductive pistes which could prevent fencers from retreating normally.
2. Pistes used in World Championships and Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organizers to ensure the adherence to electrical specifications described in this Book and in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

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**Proposal 93**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.51**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.51 (old m.51) covers the requirements for all electrical equipment, including hit registration on pistes, apparatus interruption, light signals, foil signal notes, lamp persistence, audible signals, resetting switches, power supply/UPS, clock timing, finals clock equipment with opto-couplers, cable disconnect sound specifications, and UPS backup time. The restructured Article m.51 “Power Supply and Backup” replaces the comprehensive electrical equipment requirements article with a focused power supply and backup article. The hit registration, light signals, audible signals, clock timing, and other apparatus requirements from old m.51 are now covered under m.42 (Core Functional Requirements), m.43–m.45 (weapon-specific apparatus articles), and m.52 (Extension Lamps). The restructured m.51 consolidates the power supply specifications into three dedicated provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the comprehensive electrical equipment requirements with a focused power supply article
2. Moves hit registration, light signals, audible signals, and clock provisions to m.42–m.45 and m.52
3. Consolidates power supply voltage, supply separation, and UPS backup requirements
4. Simplifies from eleven clauses to three focused provisions

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~~**Requirements for all electrical equipment (cf. Annexe B)**~~

### m.51. Power Supply and Backup

1. If the sources of current for each side of the apparatus are separate, it may be 2 × 12 volts or 2 × 6 volts. ~~1. A hit made on the conductive piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus, nor may it prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent. At foil a hit made on a part of the foil may register if an uninsulated part of the weapon of the fencer is in contact with his conductive jacket.~~

2. The separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended. ~~2. The apparatus must not have any device whereby anyone other than the person detailed to supervise it can interrupt its working during a bout.~~

3. For official FIE competitions, the apparatus must be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) with a minimum backup time of 5 minutes at full load. ~~3. Hits are registered by light signals. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be visible to the Referee, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made. It must be possible to attach extension lamps to the exterior of the apparatus, in order to increase the visibility of the signals.At foil, when using the apparatus it should be noted that: a. If a non-valid hit has been scored the apparatus will~~

not register a possible valid hit scored on the same side of the apparatus. b. The apparatus does not indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.

4. Once the signal lamps are alight, they must so remain until the apparatus is reset, without having any tendency to go out or flicker either when subsequent hits are made or if the apparatus is subjected to vibrations.
5. The visual signals must be accompanied by audible signals (cf. Annexe B).
6. The resetting switches must be placed either on top of or on the front part of the apparatus.
7. a) For official competitions of the FIE (cf. t.1) the source of power must always be secured through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) in order not to interrupt the load during the match if any interruption occurs in the normal electricity supply. The wiring of the apparatus to be powered in this way must be designed so that it is impossible for the apparatus to become connected by mistake directly to the mains supply. b) All fencing salles, clubs, etc., and the organisers of training sessions or competitions involving weapons using electrical equipment, may use the current supplied by the mains on condition that they adhere strictly to the technical standards laid down on the subject by their countries and international communities.
8. During the last 10 seconds of each period in an individual bout and of each bout in a team match, the clock must show: the time to a tenth of second when the scoring apparatus is running and to a hundredth of second when the scoring apparatus is stopped. The timer should be provided with a remote start/stop device (see Annex B for technical specifications).
9. For the finals of official competitions of the FIE, the clock must be equipped with a system which connects it to some external extension clocks displaying large luminous numbers, and with another system for the connection of the audible signal. These two connection systems must be separated from the circuits situated inside the central judging apparatus by means of opto-couplers (cf. t.32, m.44).
10. When the cable connecting the audible-signal apparatus to the clock is disconnected, the audible-signal apparatus must emit a sound of between 80 and 100 decibels (measured at the centre line of the piste) lasting between 2 and 3 seconds, but the central judging apparatus must not be blocked and the clock must not be stopped (cf. t.32, m.44, m.51/9).
11. For official FIE competitions (cf. t.1) the apparatus must obligatorily be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) with minimum 5 minutes backup time.

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**Proposal 94**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.52**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.52 (old m.52) covers the number and quality of judging apparatuses, specifying the minimum number of apparatuses for official FIE competitions, the process for contacting the SEMI Committee president, and the requirement to choose an approved manufacturer. The restructured Article m.52 “Extension Lamps” replaces the number and quality of apparatuses article with a comprehensive extension lamps article. The number and quality provisions from old m.52 are now covered under m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions). The restructured m.52 draws its content from the old M Book’s Chapter 5 (Extension Lamps) and consolidates usage requirements, lamp height and placement, colored and white lamp specifications, lamp arrangement, and electrical connection protection into six dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the number and quality of apparatuses article with a comprehensive extension lamps article
2. Moves number and quality provisions to m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions)
3. Consolidates extension lamp specifications from the old M Book’s Chapter 5 into a single article
4. Adds explicit usage, height/placement, colored lamps, white lamps, arrangement, and electrical protection sub-sections

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~~**Number and quality of judging apparatuses**~~

### m.52. Extension Lamps

**1. Usage Requirements** ~~1. For official FIE competitions, the organising committee must provide a minimum number of electrical judging apparatuses equal to the number of pistes plus at least two spares. All the apparatuses must be in perfect working order, and of a type approved for the World Championships.~~

1. Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for official competitions of the FIE.
2. Extension lamps must repeat scoring signals generated by the central apparatus (m.43–m.45).

**2. Lamp Height and Placement** ~~2. As soon as a member federation is selected to organise an official FIE competition, it would do well to contact the President of the SEMI Committee immediately in order to obtain the names of manufacturers whose electrical apparatus is accepted by the Committee.~~

1. The lamps should be placed at a minimum of 1.80 m above the piste.
2. When fencers fence on a 0.5 m high podium, the extension lamps must be 2.30 m above ground.

**3. Colored Lamp Specifications** ~~3. The Organising Committee usually prefers combined apparatus, which can be used for all three weapons. The Organising Committee must choose a~~

~~manufacturer who will provide good quality equipment for the smooth technical running of competitions; this equipment must be approved by the SEMI Committee.~~

1. The extension lamps signaling valid hits are colored: one red, the other green.
2. They must be at a minimum of 2600 lumens.

**4. White Lamp Specifications**

1. The white lights indicating non-valid hits must each provide a luminous flux of at least 1100 lumens.
2. The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm.

**5. Lamp Arrangement**

1. The white and colored extension lamps must be arranged on either side of the apparatus, either horizontally or vertically.
2. They must be visible from all directions.

**6. Electrical Connection Protection**

1. The exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply.
2. If exterior lamps are connected to the main electrical supply, the signals of the recording apparatus must be separated from the circuits of these lamps by phototransistors or by opto-couplers.

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**Proposal 95**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.53**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.53 (old m.53) covers the checking of apparatuses, including the prototype procedure with the SEMI Committee, the checking report timeline, the two possible outcomes (acceptance or resubmission), and the final checking and test report process before shipment. The restructured Article m.53 “External Display Systems” replaces the checking of apparatuses article with a comprehensive external display systems article. The checking of apparatuses provisions from old m.53 are now covered under m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures). The restructured m.53 draws its content from the old M Book’s display board and scoreboard provisions and consolidates display requirements for finals, last-64 onwards, and zonal/World Cup competitions into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the checking of apparatuses article with a comprehensive external display systems article
2. Moves checking of apparatuses provisions to m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures)

3. Consolidates display board and scoreboard requirements from the old M Book into a single article
4. Adds explicit display requirements for finals, last-64 onwards, and zonal championships/World Cups

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~~**Checking of apparatuses**~~

### m.53. External Display Systems

**1. Display Board Requirements for Championship and Grand Prix Finals** ~~1. Having chosen the manufacturer with which it wants to deal, the Organising Committee of a World Championship immediately advises the President of the SEMI Committee of the FIE who in turn contacts this firm to obtain, as soon as possible, a prototype of the desired model. The control of the fencing apparatuses must be done before the competition using a checking device that is able to verify that the fencing apparatuses fulfil all requirements related to reaction times and electrical resistances.~~

For World Championship and Grand Prix finals and Masters, it is obligatory to make use of a display board providing instantaneous information on:

1. Fencers' names
2. Score
3. Time
4. Other matters necessary for good understanding of the bout

**2. Display Requirements — From Last 64 Onwards** ~~2. The report on the checking of the apparatus is always presented to the manufacturer by the President of the Committee within one month of the apparatus being received.~~

1. Starting from the last 64 at World Championships and Grand Prix, it is mandatory to use a central apparatus with:
   a. A large display or couple scoreboard.
   b. Instant information on fencers' names, country, score, time.
   c. The period of a bout or relay of a match.
   d. Any penalty cards.
2. Display information must reproduce match time and scores generated under m.42, and m.43–m.45.

**3. Display Requirements — Zonal Championships and World Cups** ~~3. There are then two possibilities: a. The proposed apparatus is accepted by the Committee, in which case the other apparatuses can be manufactured like the prototype. b. The apparatus does not conform to the requirements, in which case it must be modified and re-submitted to the Committee for a new examination.~~

This central apparatus is optional at Zonal Championships and World Cups.

~~4. When all the apparatuses are ready and before they are sent out, the President of the SEMI Committee must be notified, so that he can document the checking of the apparatuses before they leave the factory. Each apparatus comes with a test report giving the different specifications concerning the registering time in milliseconds and the resistance in ohms of the external circuits before registering a non-valid hit. The person in charge of verification ticks off every apparatus and makes a note of its number.~~

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**Proposal 96**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.54**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.54 (old m.54) states that before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organising Committee must check the proper working of the apparatuses and that they conform to the type registered, and that the apparatuses must be made available at least 48 hours before competition. The restructured Article m.54 “Competence and Authority” replaces the pre-competition checking article with a comprehensive weapons control competence and authority article. The pre-competition checking provisions from old m.54 are now covered under m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures). The restructured m.54 is the first article of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes responsibility, personnel appointment, authority, and competence requirements in four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the pre-competition checking article with a comprehensive competence and authority article
2. Moves pre-competition checking provisions to m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures)
3. Establishes Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) with clear authority and responsibility framework
4. Adds explicit personnel appointment, authority scope, and competence requirement sub-sections

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## Chapter 5: Weapons and Equipment Control

### Part 1: Competence and Scope

### m.54. Competence and Authority

**1. Responsibility for Weapons and Material Control** ~~1. Before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organising Committee must check the proper working of the apparatuses to be used and that they conform to the type registered. This is independent of the registration of the type of apparatus mentioned above (cf. m.52).~~

1. Verification of compliance with the material requirements of this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook is the responsibility of the SEMI Commission or, if the SEMI Commission is not present, then the responsibility is with the Directoire Technique / Supervisor.
2. Only members of the SEMI Commission or the Directoire Technique / Supervisor may require verification of detailed conformity to manufacturing specifications not readily verifiable by standard checking procedures.

**2. Appointment and Authority of SEMI Delegate** ~~2. The apparatuses must be made available to this delegate at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.~~

1. Authority of the SEMI delegate is established in the FIE Statues (see Functions of the Commissions 6.5)
2. Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint three member(s) of the SEMI Commission to be responsible for supervision of electrical equipment and weapons control of the World Championships and for the Olympic Games, including but not limited to:
    a. Checking of the fencers' weapon.
    b. Checking of the fencers' clothing and equipment.
    c. Electrical equipment provided by the organizers.
    d. Approving location of weapons control areas
    e. Checking conformity of Field of Play
3. Other official FIE competitions including but not limited to World Cups, Grand Prix, the FIE will appoint one or more SEMI Commission members to be responsible for supervision of electrical equipment and weapons control, including but not limited to items listed in m.54.2.2

**3. Authority of Weapons Control Personnel**

1. Weapons Control personnel have the authority to:
    a. Examine any weapon or equipment presented for competition use.
    b. Test weapons and equipment using approved checking apparatus.
    c. Approve conforming material by affixing checking marks.
    d. Reject non-conforming material.
    e. Refer irregular or suspicious material to the SEMI representative or Directoire Technique / Supervisor (see m.59–m.60 and m.58).
2. The decisions of Weapons Control personnel regarding material compliance are binding and can be appealed only to the SEMI representative present at the competition. If the SEMI representative is not present, then the Directoire Technique / Supervisor can be appealed to.

**4. Competence Requirements**

1. Weapons Control personnel must be trained in:
    a. The material requirements of this Book.

b. The proper use of checking apparatus and gauges.

c. The identification of non-conforming or irregular material.

d. The procedures for marking and rejecting equipment.

2. Training standards and certification procedures are defined by this Book, the Homologation Handbook, and the FIE.

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**Proposal 97**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.55**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.55 (old m.55) covers the spools, cables and their connections, specifying spool wire resistance (3 ohms), electrical contact continuity with double brushes, 20m cable unwinding, safety device requirements for spool sockets, connecting cable resistance (2.5 ohms), plug specifications (3 pins, 4mm diameter), and the permissibility of suspended cables. The restructured Article m.55 “Scope of Equipment Checking” replaces the spools and cables article with a comprehensive equipment checking scope article. The spools and cables provisions from old m.55 are now covered under m.48 (Spools and Cables). The restructured m.55 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes which equipment is subject to checking, when checking must take place, and fencer obligations in three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the spools and cables article with a comprehensive equipment checking scope article
2. Moves spools and cables provisions to m.48 (Spools and Cables)
3. Establishes clear scope for equipment checking within Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
4. Adds explicit equipment subject to checking, timing, and fencer obligation sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 2. SPOOLS, CABLES AND THEIR CONNECTIONS**~~

**m.55. Scope of Equipment Checking**

**1. Equipment Subject to Checking** ~~1. The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket, must be 3 ohms.~~

1. All weapons and equipment used in competition must be checked for compliance with this Book.
2. Equipment subject to checking includes but not limited to:

a. Weapons and their corresponding parts;

b. Body wires;

c. Conductive jackets;

d. Masks;

e. Protective clothing and equipment (e.g. chest plates, etc.);

f. Gloves;

g. Field of Play equipment;

h. Other equipment (e.g. weights, shims, gabarit, etc.)

i. Any other equipment specified by the Directoire Technique (see Chapters 2 and 3).

**2. Timing of Equipment Checking Times** ~~2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being rotated at full speed. To ensure this the contact rings must have double brushes. The wire connected to the earth circuit of the weapon will be connected to the frame of the spool.~~

Equipment checking must take place:

a. Prior to the start of competition.

b. During the competition when the fencers are required to present themselves officially in the call room in the time period as posted on the colored pistes.

c. At any time during competition at the request of a referee, the Directoire Technique, or a SEMI representative.

d. Following any repair or modification of equipment during competition (see m.56–m.60).

**3. Fencer's Obligation to Present Equipment** ~~3. The spools must allow 20 m of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.~~

1. Each fencer is responsible for ensuring that all equipment they intend to use in competition is presented for checking in accordance with the procedures established by this Book.
2. Failure to present equipment for checking, or use of unchecked equipment, is subject to penalties as specified in the competition rules and in cases of irregular equipment under m.58.

~~4. The socket which terminates the spool cable, and is designed to receive the plug of the bodywire at the fencer's back, must include a safety device which fulfils the following requirements: that it is impossible to use it unless the plug is correctly put in; that it is impossible for it to become separated during the bout; that it is possible for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.~~

~~5. The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.~~

~~6. The plugs used to connect the bodywire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spools and to the apparatus must have three pins of 4 mm diameter arranged in a straight line. The outer pins must be spaced 15 and 20 mm respectively from the centre pin. The bodywire and the connecting cables have plugs, the spool wires and the central electrical apparatus have sockets to them.~~

~~7. The use of suspended cables instead of spools is permitted, provided that the conditions already mentioned are satisfied.~~

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**Proposal 98**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.56**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.56 (old m.56) covers installation requirements for spools and cables, specifying that organisers must ensure spools have 20m cables, spools must be placed close but outside pistes, cables should be three-core rubber-covered, and conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre. The restructured Article m.56 “Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control” replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article. The installation provisions from old m.56 are now covered under m.49 (Installation Requirements). The restructured m.56 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes submission requirements for equipment presentation in one dedicated sub-section.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article
2. Moves installation provisions to m.49 (Installation Requirements)
3. Establishes clear submission requirements for equipment presentation within Chapter 5
4. Adds explicit requirements for equipment assembly, functionality, delegation contacts, and timing

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## Part 2: Presentation and Checking Process

### m.56. Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control

**1. Submission Requirements** ~~1. The organisers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.~~

1. Fencers must present their equipment to the Weapons Control area during the timetable of each official competition.
2. Equipment must be presented in a manner that facilitates efficient checking (see m.55 for scope):
   a. Weapons must be fully assembled and ready for testing.
   b. Electrical components must be functional.
   c. Equipment must be clean and in condition for inspection.

3. Each head of delegation must indicate where they can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to their fencer is being checked.
4. Presentation to weapons control is allowed on the morning of the day before the competition. Presentation to weapons control after 17:00 on the day before each event may result in a refusal.

~~2. The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.~~

~~3. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three core type and be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.~~

~~4. Conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre of the piste.~~

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**Proposal 99**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.56**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.56 (old m.56) covers installation requirements for spools and cables, specifying that organisers must ensure spools have 20m cables, spools must be placed close but outside pistes, cables should be three-core rubber-covered, and conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre. The restructured Article m.56 “Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control” replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article. The installation provisions from old m.56 are now covered under m.49 (Installation Requirements). The restructured m.56 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes submission requirements, submission limits, identification and labeling, collection procedures, and checking process workflow in five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article
2. Moves installation provisions to m.49 (Installation Requirements)
3. Establishes clear submission, limits, identification, collection, and workflow requirements within Chapter 5
4. Adds explicit requirements for equipment assembly, quantity limits, labeling, collection timing, and checking workflow

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**m.56. Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control**

**1. Submission Requirements** ~~1. The organisers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.~~

1. Fencers must present their equipment to the Weapons Control area during the timetable of each official competition.
2. Equipment must be presented in a manner that facilitates efficient checking (see m.55 for scope):
   a. Weapons must be fully assembled and ready for testing.
   b. Electrical components must be functional.
   c. Equipment must be clean and in condition for inspection.
3. Each head of delegation must indicate where they can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to their fencer is being checked.
4. Presentation to weapons control is allowed on the morning of the day before the competition. Presentation to weapons control after 17:00 on the day before each event may result in a refusal.

**2. Submission Limits and Provisions** ~~2. The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.~~

1. Quantity limits are established to ensure efficient processing of equipment and equitable access to checking services.
2. Maximum number of items that may be presented for checking, include:
   a. Maximum number of four (4) weapons per fencer;
   b. Maximum number of three (3) body wires per fencer;
   c. Maximum number of two (2) conductive jackets per fencer;
   d. Maximum number of two (2) masks per fencer;
   e. Maximum number of three (3) mask-to-jacket leads per fencer.
3. For foil weapons only, weapons must be submitted with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm.

**3. Identification and Labeling** ~~3. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three core type and be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.~~

1. Fencers must provide identification for all equipment submitted for checking.
2. The Weapons Control area may require:
   a. Equipment to be placed in labeled bags or containers.
   b. Contact information for the fencer or their delegation.
   c. Indication of the fencer's weapon and competition events.
3. The Weapons Control area is responsible for maintaining organization and security of equipment during the checking process.

**4. Collection of Checked Equipment** ~~4. Conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre of the piste.~~

1. Fencers or their designated representatives must collect checked equipment in accordance with the timetable of each official competition of the FIE.
2. The Weapons Control area may establish specific times for collection to facilitate efficient operations.
3. Optimally, submitted equipment should be available for collection at the end of the same day of submission.
4. The fencer or the team captain can only insist on the return of the equipment which has been checked one hour before the start of the event.

**5. Checking Process Workflow**

1. Equipment is checked in the order in which they arrive or by an order as directed by the SEMI delegate.
2. Equipment checking typically follows this workflow:
   a. Submission: Fencer presents equipment at the Checking Area.
   b. Inspection: Weapons Control personnel examine and test equipment.
   c. Decision: Equipment is approved (marked) or rejected.
   d. Return — Approved: Approved equipment is processed in accordance with m.59 and equipment is returned to the fencer.
   e. Return — Non-conforming: Non-conforming is handled in accordance under m.60.

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**Proposal 100**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**
**Article m.57**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.57 (old m.57) covers conductive pistes, specifying material and resistance requirements, coverage, platform mounting, piste length and extensions, base construction, piste lines, repair equipment, safety obstacles, and pre-competition testing. The restructured Article m.57 “Weapon Length Measurement” replaces the conductive pistes article with a dedicated weapon length measurement article. The conductive piste provisions from old m.57 are now covered under m.50 (Conductive Pistes). The restructured m.57 consolidates all weapon length measurement procedures — total weapon length, blade length, applicable maximums, measuring devices, reading tolerances, ambiguous readings, and non-conforming consequences — into seven focused provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the conductive pistes article with a dedicated weapon length measurement article

2. Moves conductive piste provisions to m.50 (Conductive Pistes)
3. Consolidates measurement procedures that were previously scattered across weapon-specific articles
4. Adds explicit measurement device requirements, reading tolerances, and ambiguity procedures

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~~CHAPTER 3. CONDUCTIVE PISTES~~

## m.57. Weapon Length Measurement

1. Total weapon length must be measured between Plane A and Plane E in accordance with m.4. ~~1. The conductive piste must be made from metal, metallic mesh or some substance that is conductive. The resistance of the piste, from one end to the other, must not exceed 5 ohms.~~

2. Blade length and any other dimensional distances must be measured between the relevant planes as defined in m.4. . ~~2. The conductive piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions, in order to neutralise floor hits.~~

3. The applicable maximum lengths for each weapon are defined in the weapon-specific articles of this Book, including but not limited to m.6 (foil), m.14–m.15 (épée), and m.23 (sabre). ~~3. a) When the piste is mounted on a platform the conductive piste must cover the whole width of the platform. b) The platform must not exceed 50 cm in height, and must be wider than the fencing piste itself by at least 25 cm on each side. Each end of the podium must be equipped with a gentle slope right down to ground level.~~

4. Weapons Control must use a rigid measuring device and must align the weapon along the axis of the blade for measurement. ~~4. Because the amount of wire which the spools can carry is limited, the conductive piste is designed for use on a piste 14 m long; an extension of 1.50–2 m is added at each end of the piste to allow the fencer crossing the rear limits of the piste to retire on an even and unvarying surface. The conductive piste must therefore have a length of 17–18 m.~~

5. Measurements are read to the nearest millimeter. Because of normal reading and alignment uncertainty with such devices, small apparent overruns up to 2 mm may occur without providing any significant advantage or affecting safety. ~~5. a) The wooden bases are 12–15 cm above ground level. Their sides must not be sloping. b) Must have a metal strip, screwed down if possible, which will keep down the edges of the conductive piste along the entire length of the base on both sides. c) Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.~~

6. In cases where the reading is ambiguous because of parallax, alignment, or blade curvature during measurement, Weapons Control must repeat the measurement. ~~6. The paint used to draw the lines on the conductive piste must not prevent its electrical conductibility, so that a hit made on it at a point where a line occurs is also neutralised.~~

7. Interpretation and consequences of non-conforming length measurements are in m.59–m.60. ~~7. The organisers must have equipment for the immediate repair of the piste available on the spot.~~

~~8. There must be no roller or any sort of obstacle at the ends of the conductive pistes which could prevent the fencers from retreating normally.~~

~~9. Pistes used in the World Championships and in the Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organisers using the apposite device.~~

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**Proposal 101**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.58**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.58 (old m.58) covers the source of electrical current, specifying 12 volt supply requirements, warning lights, battery/voltmeter equipment, and UPS backup time. The restructured Article m.58 “Irregular Equipment and Penalties” replaces the source of electrical current article with a comprehensive irregular equipment and penalties article. The power supply provisions from old m.58 are now covered under m.51 (Power Supply and Backup). The restructured m.58 draws its content from various enforcement-related provisions in the old M Book and consolidates detection, examination and evidence, penalties, and reporting into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the source of electrical current article with a comprehensive irregular equipment article
2. Moves power supply provisions to m.51 (Power Supply and Backup)
3. Consolidates irregular equipment procedures that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit detection, examination, penalties, and reporting sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 4. SOURCE OF ELECTRICAL CURRENT**~~

## m.58. Irregular Equipment and Penalties

**1. Detection of Irregular Equipment** ~~1. The apparatus must be based on a 12 volt supply (± 5%) or, if the sources of current for each side of the apparatus are separate, on 2 x 12 volts or 2 x 6 volts. (The separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended because it can simplify a number of problems met in the construction of apparatus for foil.)~~

1. If material or equipment presented to the Weapons Control area appears to have been assembled in such a way that the fencer can control at will the registering of hits or the malfunctioning of the judging apparatus, the equipment must be referred to the SEMI representative or Directoire Technique.
2. Irregular equipment includes, but is not limited to:
   a. Equipment with concealed switches, contacts, or circuits.
   b. Equipment with components designed to circumvent the rules.
   c. Equipment modified to allow manipulation of electrical circuits during fencing.
   d. Equipment that does not conform to approved designs or specifications.

**2. Examination and Evidence** ~~2. The apparatus may include warning lights to indicate that it is switched on. Such lights should be colourless.~~

1. The SEMI representative or Directoire Technique must examine irregular equipment to determine:
   a. The nature and extent of the irregularity.
   b. Whether the irregularity constitutes intentional rule violation.
   c. The identity of the person who submitted the equipment.
2. Irregular equipment may be retained as evidence and may be subject to detailed examination or testing.

**3. Penalties for Irregular Equipment** ~~.3. If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment. However, the apparatus must always be equipped with a socket, to allow it to be powered either by 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.~~

1. After examination of irregular items, the SEMI representative may require a penalty against the person who submitted them.
2. Penalties are imposed in accordance with the disciplinary procedures set out in the competition rules and may trigger homologation review under m.68–m.73.
3. The severity of penalties may depend on:
   a. The nature and extent of the irregularity.
   b. Whether the irregularity appears intentional.
   c. Whether similar irregularities have been detected previously.

**4. Reporting and Documentation** ~~4. Generally, if the apparatus is powered by batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply), the minimum backup time for the external batteries or UPS is 5 minutes.~~

1. All instances of irregular equipment must be documented and reported to the FIE.
2. Documentation must include:
   a. Description of the irregularity.
   b. Photographs or physical evidence where appropriate.
   c. Identity of the person who submitted the equipment.
   d. Penalties imposed or recommended.
3. Irregular equipment may also be subjected to homologation review under m.68–m.73 where applicable.

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**Proposal 102**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.59**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.59 (old m.59) covers extension lamps, specifying that extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for official FIE competitions, lamp placement height, valid hit lamp color and luminosity requirements, non-valid hit lamp specifications, and lamp arrangement. The restructured Article m.59 “Marking of Approved Material” replaces the extension lamps article with a comprehensive marking of approved material article. The extension lamp provisions from old m.59 are now covered under m.52 (Extension Lamps). The restructured m.59 consolidates checking mark requirements, types, application, validity, and referee verification into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the extension lamps article with a comprehensive marking of approved material article
2. Moves extension lamp provisions to m.52 (Extension Lamps)
3. Consolidates checking mark provisions that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit requirements, types, application, validity, and referee verification sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 5. EXTENSION LAMPS**~~

**Part 3: Marking and Post-check Handling**

**m.59. Marking of Approved Material**

**1. Requirements for Checking Marks** ~~1. a) Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for the official competitions of the FIE. b) The lamps should be placed at a minimum of 1.80 m above the piste. (When the fencers fence on a 0.50 m high podium, the extension lamps must be 2.30 m above ground.) c) The extension lamps signalling valid hits are coloured, one red, the other green, and they must be of 2600 lumens minimum.~~

1. Equipment that is checked and approved for use in competition must be distinctively marked to indicate that it has passed inspection.
2. Only equipment bearing valid checking marks may be used in competition (see m.55).
3. Use of equipment that does not bear valid checking marks is subject to penalties as specified in the competition rules and may constitute a breach of m.2.

**2. Types of Checking Marks** ~~2. a) The white lights indicating non-valid hits need be of only 1100 lumens. b) The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm.~~

1. Checking marks may include: a. Adhesive labels affixed to weapons or equipment. b. Special ink or paint applied to weapons (guards, blades, points). c. Stamps affixed to conductive jackets. d. Electronic tags or other identification methods approved by the FIE.
2. Checking marks must be: a. Distinctive and difficult to counterfeit. b. Durable enough to remain intact throughout the competition. c. Visible to referees and control personnel.

**3. Application of Checking Marks** ~~3. The white and coloured extension lamps must be arranged on either side of the apparatus, either horizontally or vertically, and must be visible from all directions (cf. Annexe B, paragraph A.1.(a).2).~~

1. Checking marks are applied by Weapons Control personnel after equipment has been verified to conform to this Book.
2. The location and method of applying the checking marks is determined by the SEMI representative and must be consistent throughout the competition.

**4. Validity of Checking Marks**

1. Checking marks are valid only for the competition for which they were issued (see m.56 for presentation and m.60 for re-checking).
2. Checking marks from previous competitions are not valid and must be removed before new checking marks are applied.
3. Equipment that has been repaired, modified, or altered after checking must be re-checked and re-marked before it may be used.

**5. Verification by Referees**

Referees are responsible for verifying that all equipment used in bouts under their supervision bears valid checking marks.

**Proposal 103**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.60**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.60 (old m.60) covers the second part of extension lamps, specifying that exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply with phototransistor or opto-coupler separation, and the mandatory use of display boards for World Championship and Grand Prix finals providing information on fencers' names, scores, time, and other details. The restructured Article m.60 "Handling of Rejected or Repaired Equipment" replaces the extension lamps/display board article with a comprehensive rejected and repaired equipment handling article. The display board and exterior lamp provisions from old m.60 are now covered under m.52 (Extension Lamps) and m.53 (Scoreboards and Display Systems). The restructured m.60 consolidates rejection categories, communication of rejection reasons, repair procedures, and re-checking requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the extension lamps/display board article with a comprehensive rejected equipment handling article
2. Moves display board and exterior lamp provisions to m.52 (Extension Lamps) and m.53 (Scoreboards and Display Systems)
3. Consolidates equipment rejection and repair procedures that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit rejection categories, communication, repair, and re-checking sub-sections

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**m.60. Handling of Rejected or Repaired Equipment**

**1. Rejection of Non-Conforming Equipment** ~~1. The exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply, but in this case the signals of the recording apparatus have to be separated from the circuits of these lamps by phototransistors or by opto-couplers.~~

1. Non-conforming equipment identified at Weapons Control falls into two categories: a. Repairable equipment, which does not meet one or more requirements of this Book but can be brought into conformity by repair or adjustment. b. Unsafe equipment, which presents a clear safety risk (for example, masks with damaged mesh or holes in vital areas, broken blades, or torn protective clothing exposing vital areas) must not be returned to service.
2. Repairable equipment may be returned to the fencer for repair in accordance with m.60.3–m.60.7.
3. Unsafe equipment (as defined in m.2, m.27, and m.28) may be confiscated or rendered visibly unusable by Weapons Control or by the Referee in the presence of the person who

presented the equipment to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned, and must not be returned to service in the competition.

4. Rejected equipment that is unsafe must be distinctively marked to indicate that it may not be used in competition (see m.2).
5. Rejection marks for conductive jackets must be paint or ink of a distinctive color.
6. Rejection marks must be marked by a member of the SEMI Commission, if available, or by the weapons checking personnel.

**2. Communication of Rejection Reasons** ~~.2.For World Championship and Grand Prix finals and Masters, it is obligatory to make use of a display board of the type shown in the drawing in Annexe C, providing instantaneous information on the fencers' names, the score, the time and other matters necessary for a good understanding of the bout. Starting from the last 64 at World Championships and Grand Prix, it is mandatory to use a central apparatus with a large display or a couple scoreboard that provides instant information on the fencers' names, country, score, time, the period of a bout or the relay of a match and any penalty cards. This central apparatus is optional at Zonal Championships and World Cups.~~

When equipment is rejected, Weapons Control personnel must inform the fencer or their representative of (see m.2, m.56, and Chapter 2–3):

1. The specific reason(s) for rejection.
2. The requirements that must be met for approval.
3. The procedures for repair and re-checking.

**3. Repair of Rejected Equipment**

1. Rejected equipment may be repaired during the competition if repair facilities are available.
2. Repairs must bring equipment into full conformity with this Book.

**4. Re-Checking of Repaired Equipment**

1. Repaired equipment must be re-submitted to the Checking Area for checking if intended for use in the competition (see m.56).
2. Re-checking of repaired equipment will be carried out only after the initial round of checking of all fencers' equipment has been completed.
3. Repaired equipment that passes re-checking must be marked with valid checking marks.

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**Proposal 104**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.61**

**Motivation:** Article m.61 “Organizers’ Obligations for Checking Resources” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book addressed organizer obligations only briefly and scattered across multiple chapters (old m.42, m.54, m.56). The new article consolidates and significantly expands these requirements into a single comprehensive article covering general obligations, required checking apparatus (gauges, flexibility testing, mask resistance, electrical testing, spring pressure weights, tip travel gauges, checking marks, and additional apparatus for major competitions), conductive jacket checking and stamping, marking materials, facilities and workspace, and gauge approval, calibration and maintenance.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for organizers’ checking resource obligations
2. Consolidates scattered provisions from old m.42, m.54, and m.56 into one location
3. Adds detailed apparatus lists including gauges, testing devices, weights, and marking materials
4. Introduces explicit facility, workspace, calibration, and maintenance requirements

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## Part 4: Equipment Checking Resources and Infrastructure

## m.61. Organizers’ Obligations for Checking Resources

### 1. General Obligation

1. The Organizing Committee of the competition must provide the equipment, personnel, and facilities necessary to carry out weapons and equipment checking in accordance with this Book.
2. The scope and scale of checking resources must be appropriate to the size and level of the competition (see m.54–m.56).

### 2. Required Checking Apparatus

The Organizing Committee must provide the FIE technical delegates responsible for checking with at least the following apparatus:

#### 1. Gauges for Dimensions

Two or more gauges of:

a. Blade lengths (foil, épée, sabre).

b. Guard diameters and depths (all weapons).

c. Handle lengths.

d. Other dimensional requirements specified in Chapters 1–3.

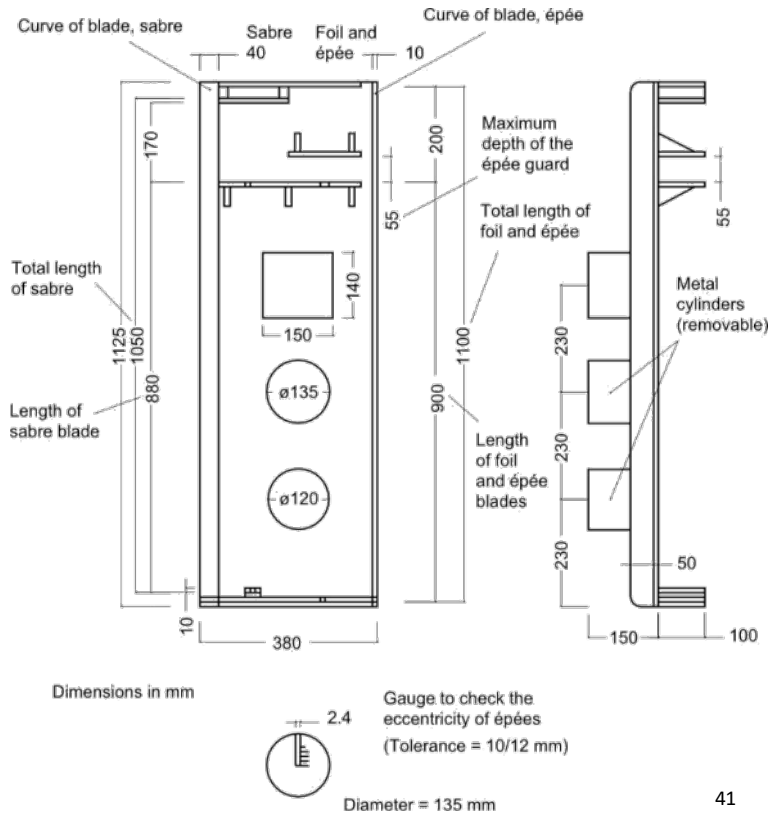



**Figure 28: Example of Testing Gauge - Gabarit**

## 2. Flexibility Testing Devices

Devices for measuring the flexibility of blades at foil, épée, and sabre in accordance with the test procedures specified in Chapter 2.

## 3. Mask Resistance Testing Devices

Devices for testing the resistance of mask mesh to deformation in accordance with the standards specified in Chapter 3.

## 4. Electrical Testing Apparatus

Electrical checking devices capable of quickly verifying:

a. Electrical resistance of body wires.

b. Correct assembly of body wires and weapons.

c. Resistance of conductive jackets.

d. Functionality of tip assemblies.

e. Continuity of electrical circuits.

### 5. Spring Pressure Testing Weights

a. Weights of 500 g (±2 g tolerance) for testing foil tip springs (see m.10).

b. Weights of 750 g (±3 g tolerance) for testing épée tip springs (see m.20).

c. Weights must be provided:

i. At all locations that conduct official weapons control.

ii. At each piste during competition.

### 6. Tip Travel Gauges

a. Devices allowing accurate measurement of (see m.10, m.20 and m.57):

i. Travel tolerance (épée).

ii. Residual travel (épée).

iii. Total travel (foil and épée).

b. Gauges must be provided both:

i. At all locations that conduct official weapons control.

ii. At each piste during competition.

### 7. Checking Marks and Labels

Sufficient quantities of:

a. Adhesive labels for approved equipment.

b. Adhesive labels for rejected equipment.

c. Special ink or paint for marking weapons.

d. Stamps for marking conductive jackets.

e. Any other marking materials specified by the Directoire Technique and/or the SEMI.

### 8. Additional Apparatus for Major Competitions

At World Championships and Olympic Games:

a. Additional testing equipment may be required by the FIE.

b. Additional testing equipment must be reviewed and approved by a group that consists of at least the SEMI President or their designee and the FIE Executive Committee Representative of the SEMI or their designee and one additional SEMI Commission member.

## 3. Conductive Jacket Checking and Stamping

1. The Organizing Committee must provide a special stamp to be affixed to each conductive jacket after its electrical resistance has been verified.
2. The checking stamp on a conductive jacket indicates that resistance has been tested (see m.30 and m.59) but does not constitute final approval for use.
3. The referee makes the final decision on whether a conductive jacket may be used.
4. The referee must verify before each bout that:

a. The conductive jacket bears a valid checking stamp, AND

b. The conductive jacket entirely covers the valid target area;

c. The jacket is in good condition with no holes or defects.

**4. Marking Materials for Weapons**

Special ink or paint must be provided to mark the guards, blades, and points of weapons that have been checked and approved.

**5. Facilities, Equipment, and Workspace**

1. The Organizing Committee must provide adequate facilities for weapons checking, including (see m.56 and m.62):
    a. Sufficient workspace for checking teams to operate efficiently.
    b. Adequate lighting for inspection of equipment.
    c. Secure storage for equipment awaiting checking or collection.
    d. Separate areas for checking stations and repair workshops (if provided).
    e. Access to electrical power for testing apparatus.
2. The organizers must make available equipment for immediate repair of the piste.

**6. Approval, Calibration and Maintenance of Gauges**

1. All checking apparatus must be calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and FIE standards.
2. The Directoire Technique and/or the SEMI, if applicable, may verify calibration of checking apparatus before or during the competition.
3. The checking gauge as specified in Figure 28 (the Gabarit) requires shop-drawings (e.g. CAD drawings, etc.) showing measurements and tolerances to be submitted and approved by the SEMI Commission prior to manufacture.

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**Proposal 105**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.62**

**Motivation:** Article m.62 "Weapons Control Staffing and Organization" is an entirely new provision. The old M Book contained only a brief mention of workshop teams (old m.42) without detailed staffing composition, station requirements, workflow procedures, or coordination protocols. The new article provides a comprehensive framework for weapons control operations covering staffing composition and assigned roles, number of checking stations, workflow through weapons control (dimensional checking, electrical testing, marking and return), coordination and supervision, and communication with fencers.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for weapons control staffing and organizational structure
2. Defines specific team roles (dimensional, electrical, marking, operations management)
3. Establishes station requirements based on competition size
4. Introduces detailed workflow, supervision, and fencer communication procedures

---

## m.62. Weapons Control Staffing and Organization

### 1. Weapons Control Staffing Composition

1. To carry out checking properly and efficiently, the Weapons Check can be organized into teams.
2. Each team should consist of a minimum of four leads with assigned roles: a. First person: Checks weapons for dimensional conformity by passing them through gauges and conducting visual inspection. b. Second person: Conducts all electrical tests (body wires, weapons, conductive jackets). c. Third person: Affixes checking marks to approved equipment and returns equipment to fencers' bags or storage. d. Fourth person: Manages the operations and flow of the checking operations.

### 2. Number of Stations

1. The number of checking stations must be appropriate to the size of the competition.
2. For major competitions, a minimum of three stations should be provided to ensure efficient processing of equipment.
3. The number of checking stations required is based on: a. Number of fencers; b. Amount of equipment to be checked; c. Time available for checking; d. Competition schedule.

### 3. Workflow Through Weapons Control

1. Equipment should flow through each station:
2. Dimensional Checking (as required by m.4, m.6, m.14, m.23, and m.57): a. Visual inspection of weapons. b. Gauge testing for length, diameter, depth (see m.4, m.6, m.14, m.23 and m.57). c. Flexibility testing of blades. d. Identification of obvious defects.
3. Electrical Testing (as required by m.9, m.10, m.20, m.26 and Chapter 4): a. Body wire resistance and continuity testing. b. Weapon electrical circuit testing. c. Conductive jacket resistance testing. d. Tip assembly pressure and travel testing.
4. Marking and Return: a. Application of checking marks to approved equipment (see m.59). b. Application of rejection marks to non-conforming equipment (see m.60). c. Recording of checked equipment. d. Return of equipment to storage or fencer. e. Equipment that fails at any station must be removed from the workflow and handled in accordance with m.60.

## 4. Coordination and Supervision

1. The SEMI representative supervises the operation of checking stations:
2. Supervision includes: a. Ensuring consistent application of checking standards; b. Resolving questions or disputes regarding conformity; c. Managing workflow and queue priorities; d. Addressing irregular equipment in accordance with m.60.

## 5. Communication with Fencers

The Weapons Control should establish clear procedures for:

a. Informing fencers of checking schedules;

b. Notifying fencers when equipment is ready for collection;

c. Explaining rejection reasons;

d. Providing information about repair and re-checking procedures.

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**Proposal 106**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.63**

**Motivation:** Article m.63 “Electrical Judging Equipment Provided by Organizers” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book listed organizer-provided electrical equipment within the general checking article (old m.42) without a dedicated scope or conflict-resolution clause. The new article creates a clear overview of the electrical judging system components that organizers must provide, references Chapter 4 for detailed specifications, and establishes a conflict-resolution rule where Chapter 4 prevails.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated overview article for organizer-provided electrical judging equipment
2. Lists the full scope of required equipment (central apparatus, spools, pistes, power, clock systems)
3. Establishes Chapter 4 as the prevailing authority for detailed specifications
4. Adds explicit provision for wireless apparatus at Veterans World Championships

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## Part 5: Overview of Organizer’s Electrical Equipment

## m.63. Electrical Judging Equipment Provided by Organizers

### 1. Scope of Organizer-Provided Equipment

1. The electrical judging system for competition includes equipment provided by the Organizing Committee which consists of, but not limited to: a. The central judging

apparatus with extension lamps. b. Spools with cables and connections, or cables suspended overhead. c. The conductive piste(s). d. The source of electrical current. e. For finals of official FIE competitions: a clock linked to the apparatus controlling the audible signal and electrical registering of hits (see Chapter 4).

2. Detailed specifications for equipment (central judging apparatus — wired and wireless, spools, cables, connectors, piste(s), power source, clock and timing systems, and prohibited equipment) are set out in Chapter 4.
3. Where conflicts arise between this article and Chapter 4, the provisions of Chapter 4 prevail.
4. Wireless apparatus is optional at the Veterans World Championships.

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**Proposal 107**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.64**

**Motivation:** Article m.64 “Purpose and Principles” is the opening article of new Chapter 6 (Homologation of Fencing Equipment and Materials). The old M Book addressed homologation primarily in Annexe A with introductory text, field of application, and process descriptions mixed together. The new article establishes clear foundational principles: mandatory homologation for FIE-logo equipment, the role of the SEMI Commission under COMEX supervision, the certificate issuance process, and the prohibition on production before homologation completion.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated opening article for the new Homologation chapter
2. Establishes the mandatory nature of homologation for all FIE-logo equipment
3. Clarifies SEMI Commission authority under COMEX supervision
4. Codifies the prohibition on production before certificate issuance

---

## Chapter 6: Homologation of Fencing Equipment and Materials

### m.64. Purpose and Principles

1. Fencing material used in official FIE competitions and carrying the FIE logo must, without exception, have obtained a valid FIE homologation certificate confirming that the specific item of material complies with all applicable FIE Rules including the competition requirements (Chapters 2–5).
2. The homologation procedure is carried out by the FIE SEMI Commission under the supervision of a representative of the FIE Executive Committee (COMEX) (m.65).

3. A homologation certificate is issued only after the equipment has successfully passed the complete homologation process described in this Chapter and in the relevant technical handbooks.
4. Manufacturers must wait for the homologation process to be completed, the result to be published and the certificate to be issued before beginning production and/or commercialization of equipment bearing the FIE logo, marks and label (m.70).

---

**Proposal 108**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.65**

**Motivation:** Article m.65 "SEMI Commission and Expert Involvement" is an entirely new provision. The old M Book mentioned the SEMI Commission's composition briefly in Annexe A but did not enumerate its specific responsibilities or formalize expert involvement requirements. The new article defines six core SEMI Commission responsibilities and establishes mandatory involvement of Rules Commission delegates for software homologation and Refereeing Commission delegates for video-refereeing systems.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article defining SEMI Commission responsibilities for homologation
2. Enumerates six specific responsibilities from application review to penalty recommendation
3. Formalizes external expert consultation authority
4. Mandates Rules Commission and Refereeing Commission delegates for software and video systems

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## m.65. SEMI Commission and Expert Involvement

### 1. SEMI Commission Responsibilities

1. Review and approval of homologation applications.
2. Oversight of laboratory testing and certification.
3. Maintenance of approved equipment lists.
4. Quality control and random testing.
5. Investigation of non-conforming equipment.
6. Recommendation of penalties for violations.

### 2. Expert Involvement

1. When necessary, the SEMI Commission may consult external experts from relevant technical fields in order to ensure the quality and reliability of the homologation process.
2. For software homologation, the presence of a delegate from the Rules Commission is mandatory.
3. For video-refereeing systems, the presence of a delegate from the Refereeing Commission is mandatory.

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**Proposal 109**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.66**

**Motivation:** Article m.66 “Equipment for Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book’s Annexe A contained a brief “field of application” paragraph listing equipment categories in running text. The new article provides a structured enumeration of all equipment categories requiring compulsory homologation (blades, points, protective clothing, masks and gloves, scoring apparatus, pistes, video-refereeing systems, and competition management software), with an explicit extensibility clause and a distinction for traditional pointes d’arrêt.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article enumerating equipment categories requiring homologation
2. Provides a structured list replacing the old running-text description
3. Adds an explicit extensibility clause for the FIE Executive Committee
4. Distinguishes traditional pointes d’arrêt from designs requiring separate homologation

---

## m.66. Equipment for Homologation

1. Homologation is compulsory for at least the following categories of equipment: a. Blades. b. Points (foil and épée). (m.66.4) c. Protective clothing (jackets, breeches, under-plastrons). d. Masks and gloves. e. Fencing scoring apparatus (wired and wireless). f. Conductive pistes. g. Video-refereeing systems. h. Competition management software.
2. This list is not exhaustive. The FIE Executive Committee may extend the list of equipment requiring homologation at any time.
3. Homologated equipment must also comply with the competition-side obligations in this Book.
4. Traditional pointes d’arrêt of standard design are accepted for use in FIE competitions without requiring separate homologation. All other pointe d’arrêt designs require homologation under this Chapter.

**Proposal 110**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.67**

**Motivation:** Article m.67 “Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book’s Annexe A described the homologation process in eight numbered steps mixing procedural details with administrative requirements. The new article restructures this into five clear sub-sections: Process (referencing the Materials Homologation Handbook), Laboratory (approved institutes), Provisional Homologation (competition testing), Final Analysis and Issuing of the Certificate, and Publication of homologation decisions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for the homologation process and certificate issuance
2. References the Materials Homologation Handbook for detailed procedural steps
3. Establishes provisional homologation for competition-condition evaluation
4. Formalizes certificate issuance requirements (physical or digital) and publication on the FIE website

---

## m.67. Homologation

### 1. Process

The request for homologation must follow the process detailed in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

### 2. Laboratory

The list of specialized institutes and/or laboratories approved by the SEMI Commission is updated regularly and communicated to the Executive Committee.

### 3. Provisional Homologation

1. For equipment that must be evaluated under competition conditions, the SEMI Commission may grant a provisional homologation limited to use at one specific competition.
2. The competition used for such testing is agreed between the SEMI President, the representative of the Executive Committee, the supplier, and the organizer of the selected competition.

## 4. Final Analysis and Issuing of the Certificate

1. Every member of the SEMI Commission must receive the full documentation.
2. Full homologation documentation is not made publicly available.
3. Only the President or their designee may issue the FIE Certificate.
4. The FIE Certificate must either be issued physically with the signature of the SEMI President or their designee or use software that provides a digital certificate.

## 5. Publication

1. Final homologation decisions are published on the FIE website.
2. CE/EC certificates and test reports are issued by specialized institutes; the SEMI Commission maintains and publishes lists of equipment that has obtained FIE homologation, together with the corresponding certificates.

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**Proposal 111**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.68**

**Motivation:** Article m.68 “Homologation Modification Management” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain explicit rules governing modifications to homologated equipment or the consequences of unreported changes. The new article establishes that homologation remains valid for the duration specified in certificates provided no modification is made, requires immediate reporting of safety- or performance-affecting modifications to the SEMI President, mandates full re-homologation for modified equipment, and defines the scope of modifications (external appearance, composition, internal structure, software/firmware, and manufacturing process).

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for managing modifications to homologated equipment
2. Establishes validity duration tied to certificates and technical handbooks
3. Requires immediate notification of modifications affecting safety or performance
4. Defines a comprehensive scope of what constitutes a modification requiring re-homologation

---

## m.68. Homologation Modification Management

1. Homologation remains valid for the duration specified in the issued certificates and relevant technical handbooks, provided that no modification is made to the equipment or to its manufacturing process (see Materials Handbook).

2. Any modification to homologated equipment that affects the safety or performance of the original equipment must be reported immediately to the President of the SEMI Commission. a. Modified equipment must undergo the full homologation process again. b. Modifications include any change affecting: i. External appearance. ii. Composition or materials. iii. Internal structure or content. iv. Software, firmware, or embedded logic. v. Manufacturing process or any other element relevant to safety or performance.

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**Proposal 112**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.69**

**Motivation:** Article m.69 “Technical Handbooks” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book referenced technical requirements within the body of the rules themselves and in Annexe A without a formal framework for standalone technical handbooks. The new article establishes that technical handbooks are drawn up by the SEMI Commission and approved by the Executive Committee, defines their content (detailed technical requirements, test methods and acceptance criteria, validity periods), and cross-references them throughout the Book.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article formalizing the role of technical handbooks in the rules framework
2. Establishes SEMI Commission authorship with Executive Committee approval
3. Defines required handbook content: technical requirements, test methods, and validity periods
4. Provides cross-references to the relevant chapters of this Book

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### m.69. Technical Handbooks

1. Technical handbooks are drawn up by the SEMI Commission and submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.
2. Each category of equipment has its own specific technical handbook setting out: a. Detailed technical requirements. b. Test methods and acceptance criteria. c. Validity periods and conditions for re-homologation.
3. These handbooks are referenced throughout this Book, including m.27, m.28, m.42 and Chapter 5.

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**Proposal 113**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.70**

**Motivation:** Article m.70 “FIE Mark and Label of Quality” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book mentioned the FIE quality label briefly in Annexe A (field of application) and in scattered references to quality labels on clothing and equipment, but did not dedicate an article to trademark protection, authorized use, manufacturer guarantees, or misuse consequences. The new article establishes the FIE emblem as a registered trademark, restricts its use to successfully homologated equipment from suppliers in good standing, requires manufacturers to guarantee compliance, and references enforcement under m.71–m.73.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for FIE trademark and quality label protection
2. Establishes authorized use conditions: valid homologation and good standing
3. Codifies manufacturer guarantee of compliance when affixing the FIE label
4. References enforcement actions under m.71, m.72, and m.73 for misuse

---

### m.70. FIE Mark and Label of Quality

1. The FIE emblem is a registered trademark.
2. The emblem and any FIE label of quality may only be affixed to equipment that has successfully completed the FIE homologation process, holds a valid homologation certificate and is a supplier of good standing with the FIE.
3. By affixing the FIE label of quality to their equipment, manufacturers guarantee that all such marked equipment complies with the technical and safety requirements of the FIE.
4. The FIE label of quality must remain visible and legible.
5. Misuse may result in actions under m.71, m.72, and m.73.

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**Proposal 114**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.71**

**Motivation:** Article m.71 “Expenses” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book addressed examination expenses only briefly in a single clause (old m.50) limited to SEMI Committee examination costs. The new article broadens the scope to cover all expenses and costs related to homologation, re-homologation, periodic checks, and modification-related reviews across all equipment categories, placing the financial responsibility entirely on the applicant.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article consolidating all homologation-related expense responsibilities
2. Broadens the scope beyond examination costs to include re-homologation and periodic checks
3. Covers all equipment categories explicitly (masks, blades, clothing, apparatus, software, video)
4. Places financial responsibility clearly on the applicant

---

### m.71. Expenses

All expenses and costs related to the homologation, re-homologation, periodic checks and modification-related reviews of equipment, including but not limited to masks, blades, breeches, jackets, under-plastrons, pistes, scoring apparatus, software and video systems, are borne by the applicant.

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**Proposal 115**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.72**

**Motivation:** Article m.72 “Withdrawal, Suspension, or Reinstatement of Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain explicit procedures for withdrawing, suspending, or reinstating homologation, nor did it enumerate enforcement measures beyond the general homologation process. The new article establishes grounds for withdrawal or suspension (non-conformity, competition-checking findings, unreported modifications), requires notification and publication of decisions, provides for reinstatement via the Materials Homologation Handbook, and enumerates five categories of additional enforcement measures.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for homologation withdrawal, suspension, and reinstatement
2. Defines three specific grounds for withdrawal or suspension
3. Requires manufacturer notification and public decision publication on the FIE website
4. Enumerates five enforcement measures from formal warnings to public notification of findings

---

### m.72. Withdrawal, Suspension, or Reinstatement of Homologation

1. Homologation may be withdrawn or suspended by the SEMI Commission if it becomes aware that: a. The homologated equipment no longer conforms to the applicable FIE

Rules; or b. Consistent non-conformities identified during competition checking (Chapter 5); or c. After homologation has been granted, the equipment or its manufacturing process has been significantly modified, and the modification has not been submitted for a new homologation.

2. In case of withdrawal, suspension or reinstatement, the SEMI Commission informs the manufacturer and publishes the decision and its effective date on the FIE website.
3. Reinstatement of homologation follows the procedure specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
4. The SEMI Commission may, in addition to withdrawal or suspension, impose the following measures: a. Formal warnings. b. Requirements for corrective action within a specified timeframe. c. Financial penalties, the schedule and amounts of which are determined by the FIE. d. Temporary prohibition from submitting new homologation applications for a specified period. e. Public notification of non-conformity findings.
5. Penalty types for these measures are detailed in the Materials Homologation Handbook (mh.10).

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**Proposal 116**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.73**

**Motivation:** Article m.73 “Quality Control” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain a dedicated quality control framework for homologated equipment. The new article establishes ongoing periodic reviews for all homologated equipment, empowers the SEMI Commission to obtain and test random market samples, defines the process for handling non-conformities discovered through quality control, and references enforcement measures under m.72 for serious cases.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for post-homologation quality control
2. Establishes mandatory periodic reviews with published schedules
3. Empowers the SEMI Commission to conduct random market sampling and independent testing
4. Defines escalation procedures for non-conformity findings including potential homologation loss

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## m.73. Quality Control

1. Homologated equipment must be subject to ongoing periodic reviews following approval to maintain homologation status. The periodic review requirements, including frequency

and method of evaluation are defined separately for each weapon and category of equipment (see Materials Handbook).

2. The applicable periodic review schedule, including any periodic evaluation requirements, is established and published through official FIE channels.
3. The FIE reserves the right to amend the periodic review schedule and associated requirements.
4. Failure to complete periodic checks within the timeframes specified in the relevant technical handbooks may result in withdrawal of homologation under m.72.
5. The SEMI Commission may obtain random samples of any specific item of fencing equipment available on the market that is claimed to be FIE-homologated.
6. These samples may be subjected to technical analysis for quality control purposes.
7. If there is any doubt as to the quality of the item, the SEMI Commission may send it directly to a certified independent institute for testing.
8. Tests are carried out in accordance with the applicable FIE material rules and relevant regulatory standards.
9. If the tests reveal any non-conformity or degradation in quality, the SEMI Commission takes appropriate measures, which may include those specified in m.72.
10. In serious cases, the manufacturer may lose an existing FIE homologation for the equipment concerned (m.72, m.68).

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**Proposal 117**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Note 1**

**Motivation:** Note 1 “Distinction Between Homologation and Event-Specific Approval” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not explicitly distinguish between manufacturer-level homologation and event-specific apparatus approval, which led to confusion among stakeholders. The new note clarifies the two distinct processes: homologation (Chapter 6) certifies a design and manufacturing process across all competitions, while event-specific approval (Chapter 4, Section 2) authorizes specific apparatus for use at one World Championship or Olympic Games. Both processes are required for scoring apparatus at official FIE competitions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated explanatory note distinguishing two commonly confused processes
2. Clarifies that homologation is manufacturer-level certification valid across all competitions
3. Clarifies that event-specific approval authorizes apparatus for one particular competition
4. States that both processes are required for scoring apparatus at official FIE competitions

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## Note 1: Distinction Between Homologation and Event-Specific Approval

1. The homologation process described in this Chapter is distinct from the event-specific approval process for scoring apparatus described in Chapter 4, Section 2 (Authorization and Event-Level Approval).
2. Homologation concerns manufacturer compliance (Chapter 6): Certifies that a design and manufacturing process for a category of equipment meets FIE technical and safety standards. Valid for the duration specified in technical handbooks, across all competitions.
3. Event-specific apparatus approval concerns use at a particular competition (Chapter 4, Section 2): Approves a specific set of scoring apparatus, spools, and connections for use at one World Championship or Olympic Games.
4. Both processes are required for scoring apparatus used at official FIE competitions.

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# MEETING REPORT

| | |
|---|---|
| **Date, place and time of the meeting:** | **27 - 28 June 2026, Sofia, Bulgaria**<br>**27.06.26 8:30-18:00**<br>**28.06.26 9:00-18:30** |
| **Participants:** | Irina Knysch<br>Olga Cojocari<br>Marius Florea<br>Khassoum Papa Toure<br>Salah Ferjani<br>Amgad Badawi<br>Vladislav Shamis<br>Katalin Varga |
| **Representative of the FIE Executive Committee** | Paolo Azzi |

## Day 1 - 27 June 2026

1. Welcome Speech by the FIE Interim President.
2. Welcome Speech FIE Secretary General and Commissions & Councils' work presentation. President of Refereeing Commission reported about Commissions activities and projects of the commission.
3. Members of the commission attended the presentations Blade Metrics and FIE website
4. Round table with Rules Commission and Coaching Council:
   FIE Secretary General informed about new created "Interpretation working group"
5. Refereeing commission prepared the plan for the rest of the day and decided which topics of the agenda are the priorities as it was not possible to finish whole agenda because of unexpected activities.
6. Discussing a draft of "FIE REFEREEING SEMINAR", decision to request FIE to permit and organise the seminar for referee's education.
7. Reviewed Zonal Championships:
   -black card at European Championship, request to FIE COMEX will be prepared;
   - made a decision to propose 2 Delegates, proposal of changes 9.4.6 in Administrative Rules will be prepared and submitted to FIE.
8. Reviewed the proposals of National Federations for the Master list 2026-27 season.
9. Reviewed the Master list: added new referees and removed referees with not satisfied level over the last seasons.
10. Nominations of referees and delegates for Veterans World Championship 2026.
11. Nominations of referees and delegates for the World Cups and GPs was made until the end of December 2026.
12. Nominations Refereeing Commission members for the FIE examinations.

## Day 2 - 28 June 2026

1. Finalised opinion of Refereeing commission concerning the proposals for the Congress 2026.
2. Meeting with FIE Executive Committee representatives;

Speech by the FIE Interim President:
- IOC new procedure from non-Olympic to Olympic sport;
- Allocation of FIE budget for each Commission and Council;
- Announcement about establishing a new working group. The Video project proposed by the Refereeing Commission and started of the end of October 2025 is cancelled and a new working group will take care about it.

3. Meeting with the Rules Commission: discussing proposals for the Congress 2026 from the both commissions.
4. Meeting with Coaches Council and PCM representative:
   Remove the white light in foil – refereeing Commission is disagree
   PCM representative – reported about epee test event in Paris and proposed to have a same foil event during World Championship 2026.
5. Meeting with SEMI Commission: Refereeing Commission provided opinion about a New Material Rules book and made remarks about needed information in the book.
6. Meeting with representative of Fair-Play Council, the members of the Refereeing Commission were advised to require referees at every competition where presented to report fair-play actions and fill-in the form, which will be provided.
7. Meeting with Veteran Council:
   Positive fit back of Council members about increasing the level of refereeing during Veterans World Championships in the last seasons and proposal to increase the number of referees. Simulation of the program for the World Championship in Tbilisi will be provided to the Refereeing Commission.
8. Discussing and analysing the results of the project "Discovering new potential referees". Report will be prepared and submitted to FIE with a request for the continuation of the project in a future, as it was successful for identifying new talented referees, as well as Junior Master list (proposal was submitted to FIE in February 2026) should be established for coaching and education young referees of the next generation during Junior World Cups. It was decided that at least 3 referees from each weapon will be included to the FIE Master list to check at least once their ability to work at senior level.
9. Analysed and selected videos for referee's seminar before the World Championship in Hong Kong.
10. Analysing the work of the commission during 2 days meeting in Sofia, as not all topics of the agenda were worked through Refereeing Commission decided to have an additional Zoom meeting and send request to FIE for the meeting in person for discussing and analysing the videos for the WhatsApp project and new videos for examination (not possible online).

Attachments:
- Congress proposals
- Master list for the season 2026-2027
- Referees and Delegates Veterans World Championship
- RC members and program for FIE examination 2026
- Discovering new potential referees report
- Program of FIE refereeing seminar
- Administrative rules proposal 9.4.6

# Video Refereeing Procedures

### 1. Review Time Limit

- The referee shall complete each video review within **60 seconds** from the start of viewing the replay.
- If no clear and conclusive evidence is found within the allotted time, the original on-piste decision shall stand.

### 2. Video Referee Intervention After an Awarded Hit

- If neither fencer has requested a video review and the referee has already awarded the hit, the referee shall not initiate a video review on their own.
- In such circumstances, the **Video Referee** may request that the referee review the video if they believe a clear officiating error may have occurred.
- Following the review, the final decision shall remain the sole responsibility of the referee.

### 3. Fencer's Request for Video Review

- A fencer may request a video review no later than **10 seconds** after the referee has announced the decision.
- Requests made after the 10-second time limit shall not be accepted.

# REPORT OF THE FIE RULES COMMISSION

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.4**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.4.4 If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~3~~ 4 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the ~~3~~ 4 candidates of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~7~~ 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.
If no candidate of one of the genders has been nominated, the 10 candidates ~~of different nationalities~~ of the other gender with the greatest number of votes are elected.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates of such gender put forward who have received at least one vote and the remainder of the Commission will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

If there are fewer than 10 candidates for a Commission then the Commission will consist of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission then the members of the Commission whose term had just ended shall hold over for the following year until new candidates can be presented and an election is held for that Commission at the following Congress.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 95**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 10.1.1**

**Motivation:** The cadet category is an official category of the FIE. The cadet zonal championships are organised by the same host federation, jointly with the FIE Junior Zonal Championships, at the same period and place and with the same appointed officials and referees. The Cadet Zonal Championships should therefore be included in the list below.

**10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE**

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and cadet ~~z~~Zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in **green**.

**10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE**

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Cadet, Junior, Senior and Veterans World Championships, ~~the Junior and Cadet World Championships~~, ~~the Veteran World Championships~~, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Cadet, Junior and Senior, ~~and Junior and cadet~~ ~~z~~Zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

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**Proposal 96**

**Presented by: Fencing Federation of Uzbekistan**

**Article: 10.1.1**

**Motivation:** The Regional Games are referenced from a sport point of view in several articles of FIE Organisation Rules and FIE Administrative Rules: o.13, o.44, o.54, o.96, 9.1.2.

This proposal aims to introduce in the FIE Statutes a formal recognition of fencing competitions held within Regional Games. It will ensure strengthening cooperation with Continental Olympic Committees and the International Olympic Committee, and will reinforce the consistency, universality, and value of major continental competitions. Proposal supported most of the countries of Asia, as China, Japan, UAE, Mongolia, India, Malaysia.

**10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE**

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior and Junior ~~z~~Zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Continental multi-sport Games (Asian Games, African Games, European Games and Pan American Games), organised under the authority of continental associations of National Olympic Committees and under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee are recognised by the International Fencing Federation.

Fencing competitions held within Continental multi-sport Games are official competitions of the FIE.

These Games are organised once every four years, generally in the period preceding the Olympic Games. In the year in which Continental multi-sport Games are held, the fencing competitions within such Games may replace the respective Continental Championships.
If a Continental multi-sport Games would be cancelled for any reason, the corresponding Continental Championship shall be organised in accordance with the FIE Rules**.**

Application: 2028

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor for recognition of the Continental multi-sport Games as official FIE competitions, but with the scratched text.

However, the Commission notes that the Continental Games currently differ in both format and calendar. The number of individual participants varies (2 in the Asian Games, 3 in the Pan American Games, and 4 in the European and African Games), and the Games are held at different periods, with some taking place outside the Olympic qualification period or overlapping with the Senior World Championships.

Therefore, before Continental Games can replace the Zonal Championships, their regulations and calendar should be harmonized with the FIE Rules for Zonal Championships to ensure equal conditions for all continents.

**10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE**

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the Senior World Championships, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Veteran World Championships, the individual and team Junior and Senior World Cup competitions, the Grand Prix competitions, the satellite competitions, the Cadet individual World Cup competitions, the Senior and Junior zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

Continental multi-sport Games (Asian Games, African Games, European Games and Pan American Games), organized under the authority of continental associations of National Olympic Committees and under the patronage of the International Olympic Committee are recognized by the International Fencing Federation.

Fencing competitions held within Continental multi-sport Games are official competitions of the FIE.

~~If the fencing competitions within Continental multi-sport Games replace the Zonal Championships they must be organised in accordance with the FIE Rules for Zonal Championships.~~

~~These Games are organised once every four years, generally in the period preceding the Olympic Games. In the year in which Continental multi-sport Games are held, the fencing competitions within such Games may replace the respective Continental Championships.~~

~~If a Continental multi-sport Games would be cancelled for any reason, the corresponding Continental Championship shall be organised in accordance with the FIE Rules~~.

Application: 2028

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**Proposal 98**

**Presented by: National Fencing Federation of Peru**

**Article: 10.6**

**Motivation:** Today, in many countries, children begin fencing at the age of 6-7, and in some countries even at the age of 5.
Unfortunately, the FIE does not have a single official competition for children under 13. Therefore, to participate in official FIE competitions, children must wait many years (6-7 years, even longer), which is why many children leave fencing.

To popularize fencing worldwide, motivate children to take up fencing, and increase the number of people practicing fencing worldwide, it is proposed to establish a World Championship for children's fencers in two categories: the first category (9-10 years old), and the second category (11-12 years old). Individual competitions only.

If this proposal is approved, the National Fencing Federation of Peru is ready to organize the first World Children's Fencing Championships in Lima, Peru.

**CHAPTER X - COMPETITIONS**

**10.6 CHILDREN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

10.6.1 General Rules

The Children’s World Championships are to be held annually under the auspices of the FIE, comprising individual competitions at boy’s and girl’s foil, epee and sabre.

The Children’s World Championships are held every year, during the last two weeks of August, under the auspices of the FIE.

10.6.2

The Rules of Children’s World Championships are defined in specific sections of the FIE Rules.

Rules related to all categories are applicable when not otherwise specified in those sections.

**Formula**

The World Children's Fencing Championships will be held in two categories: the first category is for 9–10-year olds, and the second category is for 11–12-year-olds. Individual competitions only.

**In the first category** (9-10 years old), competitions will be held in groups of up to 4 hits, with a time limit of 2 minutes.

In the direct elimination round, fights will be held up to 8 hits, in two periods of 2 minutes with one-minute break between.

**In the second category** (11-12 years old), competitions will be held in groups of up to 5 hits, with a time limit of 3 minutes.

In the direct elimination round, fights will be held up to 10 hits, in two periods of 3 minutes with one-minute break between.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** Not in favor.

The Rules Commission prefers to wait the opinions of the Medical and Legal Commissions before making a decision.

At this stage, the Rules Commission does not support the proposal, given that the minimum age for participation in FIE competitions is set at 13.

Furthermore, no regulation specifies the equipment to be used for the various age categories. It is therefore necessary to consult the SEMI Commission to determine the applicable specifications—specifically regarding the type of clothing, blade length, and blade type (No. 2 or No. 5)—for the 9–10 age group.

# REPORT FROM THE RULES COMMISSION

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Organisation Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 1**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.3**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not included into the FIE rankings because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word “cadet” in article o.3.

**o.3** These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the ‘Official Competitions of the FIE’, viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, cadet, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- International competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour

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**Proposal 2**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles: o.3, o.42, o.55, o.60, o.89, o.108**

**Motivation :** Introduction to Zonal Cadet as part of FIE Competition

**o.3** These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the 'Official Competitions of the FIE', viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, cadet, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- International competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes.

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships and the Cadet and Junior Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, ~~Cadet circuit,~~ etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the **Cadet and** Junior Zonal Championships comprises ~~6~~ **12** individual events, and 6 team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, **Cadet** and Junior Individual Zone Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team Zone Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.55**

The **forms** must be sent to all federations at the same time as the official invitation. The federations must indicate their **intention to participate** three months before the beginning of the Championships.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior, Cadet and Junior Championships***

***Zone Championship***

**o.60**

For **Cadet,** junior and senior Individual Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

**o.108**

**1 Principles**

c) **The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships **and Zonal Championships.**

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships ~~and the Cadet and Junior Zonal Championships~~. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, ~~Cadet circuit,~~ etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the **Cadet and** Junior Zonal Championships comprises ~~6~~ **12** individual events, and 6 team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Cadet, Junior and Senior~~, **Cadet and Junior**~~ Individual Zon~~e~~al Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Junior and Senior ~~and Junior~~ Team Zon~~e~~al Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.55**

The **forms** must be sent to all federations at the same time as the official invitation. The federations must indicate their **intention to participate** three months before the beginning of the Championships.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal ~~Senior, Cadet and Junior~~ Championships***

***Zon~~e~~al Championship***

**o.60**

For **Cadet,** ~~j~~Junior and ~~s~~Senior Individual Zon~~e~~al Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For ~~j~~Junior and ~~s~~Senior Team Zon~~e~~al Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of ~~the Junior and Cadet World Championships~~, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions, World Championships and Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

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**Proposal 3**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.16**

**Motivation:** The Event Managers of the FIE should be part of the Directoire technique in order to be consistent in the organisation of all senior competitions.

***Nomination of the Directoire Technique***

**o.16**

The **Directoire Technique** is composed of people **who have the experience and competence to organise competitions.**

**2 World Cup and Grands Prix competitions**.

a) For Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions, ~~The~~ the Directoire Technique is composed of three qualified persons from the country where the competition is held or invited by them. There must be at least one member from each gender.

b) For senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions, the Directoire Technique is composed of three qualified persons: two from the country where the competition is held or invited by them and one appointed by the FIE as President of the Directoire technique. There must be at least one member from each gender.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the adding text in green.

***Nomination of the Directoire Technique***

**o.16**

The **Directoire Technique** is composed of people **who have the experience and competence to organise competitions.**

**2 World Cup and Grands Prix competitions**.

a) For Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions, ~~The~~ the Directoire Technique is composed of three qualified persons from the country where the competition is held or invited by them. There must be at least one member from each gender.

b) For ~~s~~Senior World Cup and Grand Prix competitions, the Directoire Technique is composed of three qualified persons: two from the country where the competition is held or invited by them and one Event Manager appointed by the FIE as President of the Directoire technique. There must be at least one member from each gender.

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**Proposal 4**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.22**

**Motivation:** In order not to overlap the roles of Event Manager and Supervisor, the latter will be appointed in cadet and junior World Cups only.

***Supervisor***

**o.22**

**1** The Organizing Committees of ~~Grands Prix, Senior and~~ Junior World Cup events, individual and team, and of Cadet World Cup events, must ensure the presence of a supervisor of the FIE from a country other than that where the competition is held, whose task it will be to verify that the competition properly fulfils the World Cup criteria.

**4** The Supervisor settles any other disputes that might arise in Cadet and Junior World Cups. ~~and Grand Prix.~~

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposal 6**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles o.41, o.99, t.41, t.124**

**Motivation:** We considered how to make team matches shorter and more dynamic, with increased suspense through greater individual responsibility for each fencer. The objective is to create a format that is more attractive for television and digital broadcasting, easier to understand for spectators, and overall more dynamic and spectacular in presentation.

The proposal consists of modifying the current team competition format by introducing a set-based system, according to the following rules:

Each match would be contested as a best-of-three sets (two sets required to win).

Each set would be fenced to 15 touches using the relay format (5–10–15).

The team that wins two sets wins the match.

If each team wins one set, a decisive third set would be fenced to 15 touches.

Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).

Each team would consist of three fencers, with one optional substitute.

Each set would be fenced independently, with the score reset to 0–0 at the start of each set.

Touches would not carry over from one set to another.

Each coach would have one 30-second time-out available per match.

**o.41**

**2 Principles**

c) The matches proceed according to the **2 winning sets** ~~**team-relay**~~ **formula**, as provided for in Article o.99 of these Rules.

**o.99**

The **formula** for the competition is as follows.

**1** The **relay formula 2 winning sets** applies to all weapons.

**2** The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team (~~**9**~~ **relay bouts**). **In 2 winning sets, in case of a tie a 3rd decisive set will be fence.**

**3** The bouts of each **set** match have to be fought in the following **order**:

~~3–6 2–5~~
~~1–5 1–4~~
~~2–4 2–6~~
~~1–6 3–5~~
~~3–4~~

| 1St Set | 2nd Set | 3rd Set |
|---|---|---|
| 3–6 | 2–5 | 1–4 |
| 1–5 | 3–4 | 2–6 |
| 2–4 | 1–6 | 3–5 |

If this order is **altered**, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

**4** **The position of each team on the match score-sheet** is decided by drawing lots. **The order of the individual fencers** is then decided by the team captains.

**5**

**d) Each team captain has one 30-second timeout that can be used during the entire match**

**t.124**

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all ~~9 relays~~ **set**) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts, at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at ~~44-44~~ 14-14 in each set.

**t.41**

1 Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of **five hits** (5, 10, 15~~, 20, etc~~.), ~~Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5, 10, 15 etc. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted;~~ the maximum time for each bout is **3 minutes**.

2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.
**The two opponents in the 3rd relay shoot up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3 minutes.**

3 If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

4 **The winning team** is that which first reaches **2 winning sets** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after~~ ~~the expiry of regulation time.~~
**In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 minutes each.**

5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

- For team Junior competition (season 2027/2028)
- For team Senior competition after LA 2028 (season 2028/2029)

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modification in green.

Applicable as a test for juniors from season 2027-2028.

**Application: As a test for juniors from season 2027-2028.**

**o.41**

**2 Principles**

c) The matches proceed according to the **2 winning sets** ~~**team-relay**~~ **formula**, as provided for in Article o.99 of these Rules.

**o.99**

The **formula** for the competition is as follows:

**1** The **relay formula 2 winning sets** applies to all weapons.

**~~2~~** The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team until 2 winning sets (**~~9~~ 3 relay bouts per set**). **~~In 2 winning sets, in case of a tie a 3rd decisive set will be fence.~~**

**3** The bouts of each **set** match have to be fought in the following **order**:

~~3–6~~
~~1–5~~
~~2–4~~
~~1–6~~
~~3–4~~
~~2–5~~
~~1–4~~
~~2–6~~
~~3–5~~

| 1St Set | 2nd Set | 3rd Set |
|---|---|---|
| 3–6 | 2–5 | ~~1–4~~ 2-6 |
| 1–5 | 3–4 | ~~2–6~~ 1-4 |
| 2–4 | 1–6 | 3–5 |

If this order is **altered**, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

**4** **The position of each team on the match score-sheet** is decided by drawing lots. **The order of the individual fencers** is then decided by the team captains.

**5**

**d) ~~Each team captain has one 30-second timeout that can be used during the entire match~~ Between each set will be a 3 minutes break.**

**t.124**

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all ~~9 relays~~ **sets**) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts, at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at ~~44-44~~ 14-14 in each set.

**t.41**

1 Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of **five hits** (5, 10, 15~~, 20, etc~~.), Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5 or 10, ~~15 etc~~. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted; the maximum time for each bout is ~~3~~ 2 **minutes**.

2 The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of ~~3~~ 2 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of ~~3~~ 2 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.

**The two opponents in the 3rd relay ~~shoot~~ fence up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of ~~3~~ 2 minutes.**

3 If by the expiry of ~~3~~ 2 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of ~~3~~ 2 minutes.

4 **The winning team** is that which first reaches **2 winning sets** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time.~~
**In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of ~~3~~ 2 minutes each bout.**

5 **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

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**Proposal 7**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.42**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by the FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the Cadet Zonal Championships in article o.42, in order to regulate the entries to these competitions.

**ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships, ~~and~~ the Junior Zonal Championships and the Cadet Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the Junior and Cadet Zonal Championships comprises 6 individual Cadet events and 6 individual Junior events, and 6 Junior team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

**ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships, ~~and the Junior Zonal Championships and the Cadet Zonal Championships~~. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the Cadet and Junior ~~and Cadet~~ Zonal Championships comprises 6 individual Cadet events and 6 individual Junior events, and 6 Junior team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Cadet, Junior and Senior~~, and Junior and Cadet~~ Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Junior and Senior ~~and Junior~~ Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Proposal 8**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.56**

**Motivation:** As it is already permitted to enter additional fencers after the deadline, clarify the addition of a team after the deadline, as already in place for the Senior team World Cups.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet Championships***

**o.56**

**3 Withdrawal of a fencer or a team**

**After the cut-off date for entries, there can be no further withdrawal of a name or of a team except in any case of force majeure duly justified.**

Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalised by a **fine** (**cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines**), payable to the FIE, **except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'.**

**4 Addition of fencer(s) or a team after the deadline ~~after the cut-off date.~~**

Nevertheless, one or more fencers and/or a team may be added, up until 10.00am (**local time in the town hosting the World or Zonal Championships**) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a **penalty (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) per ~~fencer~~ entry added**. To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer and/or a team, together with immediate payment of the penalty.

**5 Changes of names**, only with the agreement of the FIE, can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal ~~Senior and Junior~~ ~~and Cadet~~ Championships***

**o.56**

**3 Withdrawal of a fencer or a team**

**After the cut-off date for entries, there can be no further withdrawal of a name or of a team except in any case of force majeure duly justified.**

Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalised by a **fine** (**cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines**), payable to the FIE, **except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'.**

**4 Addition of fencer(s) or a team after the deadline ~~after the cut-off date.~~**

Nevertheless, one or more fencers and/or a team may be added, up until 10.00am (**local time in the town hosting the World or Zonal Championships**) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a **penalty (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) per ~~fencer~~ entry added**. To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer and/or a team, together with immediate payment of the penalty.

**5 Changes of names**, only with the agreement of the FIE, can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event.

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**Proposal 9**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.60**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated in FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word "cadet" in article o.60.

***~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship***

**o.60**

For cadet, junior and senior Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 10**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.62**

**Motivation:** In recent years, the number of participants in Senior individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased significantly, which results in extremely long competition days and increased logistical pressure on organizers, referees, athletes and officials. The excessive duration of competitions affects the quality of the event, athlete performance conditions and the overall efficiency of the competition schedule. It also increases organizational costs and operational complexity for host federations.

For the majority of National Federations, which typically enter between 1 and 6 athletes, the introduction of an 8-fencer limit would not restrict their participation. On the contrary, it would create a more balanced competition environment.

**o.62**

**1** For **Grand Prix competitions and Senior Individual World Cup competitions**, ~~Cadet, Junior and Senior, Senior and Junior,~~ at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of ~~12~~ 8 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**2** ~~For **Individual World Cup competitions outside Europe**, the organising country may enter up to 30 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.~~ For **Cadet and Junior Individual World Cup competitions**, at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of 12 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 11**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.83, o.85, o.86, o.87**

**Motivation:** In recent years, participation in individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased considerably, with some events reaching over 300 athletes. Many of the athletes ask for

equal conditions in the individual competition. In order to have equal conditions in senior FIE competitions, all the participants should start compete from the pools. After the pools all the qualifies athletes will fence the direct elimination table up to T64 in the first day. No top 16 world ranking exempte, no top 16 after the pools will be qualify direct to the T64. In the second day the rest of T64 will be fence. So all Senior FIE events will use one unifies formula.

All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

## *C. MIXED FORMULA A. SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, SENIOR WORLD CUPS AND GRAND PRIX*

### Mixed formula A

**o.83**

One qualifying round of pools, a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table~~, a main direct elimination table~~ of ~~64~~ fencers to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Senior World Championships as well as for the Senior World Cup competitions and Grand Prix competitions.

**o.85**

1 The competition consists of two phases, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.

~~2 The 16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification are exempt from the preliminary phase.~~

~~3~~ 2 Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.

~~4 In the case of a tie in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.~~

**o.86**

1 For World Cups ~~T~~the preliminary phase consists of one round of pools, from which 25% ~~20%–30%~~ of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all participants ~~competing in them~~, and a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table until 64 fencers remain. For World Championship and Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

~~2 After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf o.73) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the~~

~~16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers is determined according to V, HS-HR, HS.~~

~~3~~ 2 The remainder of the fencers qualifying from the pools will make up a ~~preliminary integral~~ direct elimination table. This will be based on the indices of the fencers in all the pools (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots). This table, be it complete or incomplete, will be fenced until only 64 ~~32~~ fencers remain.

**o.87**

1 The main phase consists of a~~n~~ 64 integral direct elimination table, which is fenced on four pistes, one quarter of the table per piste. The first round of the table of 64 may, however, if required for the organisation of the competition, be fenced on eight pistes. Grand Prix competitions must be fenced either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video refereeing.

~~2 The seeded fencers exempted from the preliminary phase occupy places 1–16 in this table, drawing lots in pairs in the order of their official FIE classification.~~

~~3 Should one of the 16 exempted fencers who had been entered not present himself to fence (cf. o.85), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.~~

~~4 The 16 fencers who have the highest indices after the round of pools and who are thus exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table will take places 17–32, classified in the order of their indices (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots).~~

~~5~~ ~~The 32~~ ~~fencers qualifying from the~~ preliminary direct elimination table will ~~occupy places 33–64, classified according to their indices after the round of pools.~~

~~6 The drawing of lots and allocation of the qualified fencers in the main table (T64) shall be made at the end of the preliminary table in the presence of the Directoire Technique President.~~

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

***C. MIXED FORMULA A. SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, ~~SENIOR~~ WORLD CUPS AND GRAND PRIX***

**Mixed formula A**

**o.83**

One qualifying round of pools, a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table~~, a main direct elimination table~~ of ~~64~~ fencers to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Senior World Championships as well as for the Senior World Cup competitions and Grand Prix competitions.

**o.85**

1 The competition consists of two phases, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.

~~2 The 16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification are exempt from the preliminary phase.~~

~~3~~ 2 Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.

~~4 In the case of a tie in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.~~

**o.86**

1 For Senior World Cups, Grand Prix competitions and World Championship ~~T~~the preliminary phase consists of one round of pools, from which 25% ~~20%–30%~~ of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all participants ~~competing in them~~, and a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table until 64 fencers remain. ~~For World Championship and Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.~~

~~2 After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf o.73) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the 16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers is determined according to V, HS HR, HS.~~

~~4~~ 2 The remainder of the fencers qualifying from the pools will make up a ~~preliminary integral~~ direct elimination table. This will be based on the indices of the fencers in all the pools (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots). This table, be it complete or incomplete, will be fenced until only 64 ~~32~~ fencers remain.

**o.87**

1 The main phase consists of a~~n~~ 64 integral direct elimination table, which is fenced on four pistes, one quarter of the table per piste. The first round of the table of 64 may, however, if required for the organisation of the competition, be fenced on eight pistes. Grand Prix competitions must be fenced either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video refereeing.

~~2 The seeded fencers exempted from the preliminary phase occupy places 1–16 in this table, drawing lots in pairs in the order of their official FIE classification.~~

~~3 Should one of the 16 exempted fencers who had been entered not present himself to fence (cf. o.85), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.~~

~~4 The 16 fencers who have the highest indices after the round of pools and who are thus exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table will take places 17–32, classified in the order of their indices (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots).~~

~~5 The 32 fencers qualifying from the~~ preliminary direct elimination table will ~~occupy places 33–64, classified according to their indices after the round of pools.~~

~~6 The drawing of lots and allocation of the qualified fencers in the main table (T64) shall be made at the end of the preliminary table in the presence of the Directoire Technique President.~~

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**Proposal 12**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.89**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by FIE' rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to list all zonals in article below.

***D. MIXED FORMULA B – JUNIOR AND CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, CADET WORLD CUPS, JUNIOR WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.***

**Mixed Formula B**

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

***D. MIXED FORMULA B – CADET AND JUNIOR ~~AND CADET~~ WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, ~~CADET WORLD CUPS, JUNIOR~~ WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.***

**Mixed Formula B**

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Cadet and Junior ~~and Cadet~~ World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

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**Proposal 13**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.92**

**Motivation:** All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

**o.92**

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modification in green.

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be ~~30~~ 25%.

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**Proposal 14**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.98, o.100**

**Motivation:** The Senior and Junior World Cups bring together a very large number of participants. With the current format, the competition has become increasingly difficult to manage due to the

growing number of registered athletes. No other sport offers such a long competition format in a single day.

This situation results in significant physical and mental fatigue for the athletes, increased pressure on coaches and officials, an excessive workload for event organizers, and considerable fatigue for referees, whose concentration must remain at the highest level throughout the entire event.

Furthermore, such an extended format greatly reduces media appeal. No media outlet, journalist, photographer, or television broadcaster can reasonably cover a continuous competition lasting 9 to 12 hours. This limits international visibility and hinders the development of the discipline.

For all these reasons, we propose that the Senior and Junior World Cups adopt a full direct elimination format.

This system would allow for a significant reduction in the overall duration of the competition, better clarity for the public and the media, increased sporting intensity in every round, more efficient and professional organization, and improved working conditions for referees and officials.

This reform would make the competition more dynamic, more attractive, and better aligned with modern international sporting standards.

***TEAM COMPETITIONS***

***A. JUNIOR, SENIOR ~~AND JUNIOR~~ WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS***

**o.98**

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex b).

**2** At the Junior, ~~and~~ Senior World Championships **and Zonal Championships** the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

**3** **At the Junior ,Senior, ~~and~~ ~~Junior~~ World Championships and Zonal Championships,** all places in the table up to 16th place are fought for. From 17th place onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**o.100**

~~Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, Senior World Championships and Zonal Championships respectively.~~

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex A).

**2** At the Junior and Senior World Cup the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

3 **At the Junior and Senior World Cup, the competition format is direct elimination** onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

***TEAM COMPETITIONS***

***B. JUNIOR AND SENIOR ~~AND JUNIOR~~ WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS***

**o.98**

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex b).

**2** At the Junior and Senior World Championships **and Zonal Championships** the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

**3** **At the Junior and Senior, ~~and Junior~~ World Championships and Zonal Championships,** all places in the table up to 16th place are fought for. From 17th place onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**o.100**

~~Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, Senior World Championships and Zonal Championships respectively.~~

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex A).

**2** At the Junior and Senior World Cup the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

3 **At the Junior and Senior World Cups, the competition format is direct elimination** onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**Proposal 15**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.105**

**Motivation:** Cadet Zonal championships should follow the same rule as junior zonal championships.

**Video Refereeing**

**o.105**

Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the World Championships and Olympic Games, cadet, junior and senior Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

**1** For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, senior Zonal ~~Zone~~ Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on 4 pistes or 8 pistes, and in any case, **from the table of 64.**

| Competitions | Individual event VIDEO, from | Team event VIDEO, from | Number of pistes equipped with VIDEO | Teams and ranking matches |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Senior World Cup | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior World Cup | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |
| Grand-Prix | T 64 | ---------- | 4 or 8 | ---------- |
| Senior World Championships | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Junior/Cadet World Championships | T 32 | T 16 (juniors) | 8 | T 1-8 |
| Senior Zonal Championship | T 64 | T 16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior Zonal Championship | ~~not mandatory~~ T16 | ~~not mandatory~~ T 16 (juniors) | ~~not mandatory~~ 4 or 8 | ~~not mandatory~~ T 1-8 |
| Veteran World Championships | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Zonal qualifying events for the Olympic Games | Pools | ----------<br>- | All pistes | ---------- |
| Olympic Games | Mandatory for all phases of the Olympic competition | | | |

**Opinion of Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

**o.105**

Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the Cadet and Junior ~~and Cadet~~ World Championships, the World Championships and Olympic Games, ~~c~~Cadet, ~~j~~Junior and ~~s~~Senior Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

**1** For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, ~~s~~Senior Zonal ~~Zone~~ Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on 4 pistes or 8 pistes, and in any case, **from the table of 64.**

| Competitions | Individual event VIDEO, from | Team event VIDEO, from | Number of pistes equipped with VIDEO | Teams and ranking matches |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Senior World Cup | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior World Cup | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |
| Grand-Prix | T 64 | ---------- | 4 or 8 | ---------- |
| Senior World Championships | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Junior/Cadet World Championships | T 32 | T 16 (juniors) | 8 | T 1-8 |
| Senior Zonal Championship | T 64 | T 16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior Zonal Championship | ~~not mandatory~~<br>T16 | ~~not mandatory~~<br>T 16 (juniors) | ~~not mandatory~~<br>4 or 8 | ~~not mandatory~~<br>T 1-8 |
| Veteran World Championships | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |
| Zonal qualifying events for the Olympic | Pools | ----------<br>- | All pistes | ---------- |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Games | | | | |
| Olympic Games | Mandatory for all phases of the Olympic competition | | | |

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**Proposal 16**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.108**

**Motivation:** Related to the addition of Cadet Zonal Championships.

**Official FIE individual ranking**

**o.108 1**

**1 Principles**

**c) The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships and the Zonal Championships

**o.108 2**

**2 Scale of points**

**c)** Points obtained in ~~a~~ **Grand Prix** and ~~a~~ individual Zonal Championships ~~competition~~ of the FIE (cadet, junior and senior) are multiplied by a factor of 1.5.

**Opinion of Rules Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposal 18**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.119**

**(Urgent decision) For Team competition Veterans World Championship 2026 for to use the new formula in next Veterans World Championship in Tbilisi 2026**

**o.119**

1 Participation

Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon.

2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is ~~45 hits relay~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

**Opinion of Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

**Application: Starting with 2027 Veterans World Championship**

**o.119**

1 Participation
Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon.

2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is ~~45 hits relay~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

a) In the case of a team being short of a fencer in any of the weapons, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon or who is registered but has yet to compete, moreover in the case of a team being short of a fencer in the age group 40-59, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships in the age groups 60 and 70 who is registered but has yet to compete, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be last in the individual competition at the weapon of the team in which he/she is going to fence plus 1.

b) The teams are placed in the direct elimination table according to the ranking of the two best fencers in each ~~category~~ age group in the individual championship, registered for the team event. In the table

16 the losers are placed in table B with direct elimination, losers from the table of 8 are placed in table C with direct elimination (Annexe B). Teams are ranked, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table. The losers of the semifinals will fight for the 3rd place. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of each match.

c) Each team may request, before a given relay, the substitution of a fencer. However, in case of injury or other medical reason, duly recognized by the medical delegate, the substitution can be immediate, even during the relay.

There can be up to two substitutions of reserves per match but must maintain compliance with the age category representation requirement.

A fencer who has been replaced because of a medical reason, may not fence again during that match. If both a fencer and the reserves are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, and the team cannot maintain compliance with the age category representation requirement, there has lost the match.

A fencer, once substituted, may not fence again in that match.

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**Proposal 19**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: Index to articles**

**Motivation:** This proposal is in relation with proposals related to Cadet Zonal Championships.

Zonal Championships:
- Cadet, Junior: o.60, o. 89-96, o.100-102
- Senior: o.42, o.55, o.60, o.89-96, o.100-102, o.105, o.108.2.d

**Opinion of Rules Commission:** In favor.

**Proposals for the 2026 Congress**

**Modifications of the Technical Rules**

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 20**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.9.1**

**Motivation:** In definition of attack is only explanation concerning movement of the arm, but nothing about moving forward the feet, extending arm on the spot or with step back could be considered as an attack according to the existing t.9.1.

**t.9.1**

The **attack** is the initial offensive action ~~made~~ of non-stop movement forward, started by extending the arm and continuously threatening the opponent's target, preceding the launching of the lunge or fleche (cf. t.83, t.84, t.85 and t.101ss).

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 21**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.22, t.170 1.13)**

**Motivation:** To add clarity and consistency for the commonly given penalty of "false starts"

The penalty for the "false start" it is not explicated stated in the rulebook. It is most consistently given in sabre but is less consistently given in foil and epee. By explicitly stating this as a rule, ambiguity and inconsistency is removed, and it will be more evenly applied and easily understood and expected by all.

**t.22**

**12.** The fencers must come on guard correctly and remain completely still until the command 'Play!' is given by the Referee. **A fencer who does not remain still or who initiates an action before the command "Play" commits an offense in the 1st group and will be penalized in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170**.

**t.170**

1st group

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.13 | Refusal to obey the Referee, **False Start** | t.108, t.112, **t.22.12** | Yellow | Red | Red |

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposal 22**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.27**

**Motivation:** To make clear that hit before "Halt!" should be awarded.

**t.27**

2 It is forbidden to turn one's back on one's opponent during the bout. Should such an offence occur, the Referee will penalise the fencer at fault as specified in articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled, however, the hit of the opponent before the Referee called 'Halt!' is valid.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 23**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.34**

**Motivation:** To keep the same terminology like in t.22.10

**t.34**

Should a competitor cross the rear limit of the piste completely- i.e. with both feet — a technical hit will be ~~scored~~ awarded against him.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposal 24**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.35, t.170 2.7)**

**Motivation:** As nowadays leaving the piste to avoid being hit has become a tactic and it should be penalised with “Red Card”.

**t.35**

3 A competitor who crosses **intentionally** one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with **one or** both feet — e.g. when making a flèche **or to stop his opponent’s attack** — to avoid being hit will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158 -~~162, t.165~~, **t. 166**, t.170, for the offences of the ~~1st~~ 2nd group. Any hit made by the offending fencer is annulled.

**t.170**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2.7 | Crossing lateral boundary of the piste to avoid being hit **(*)** | **t.35.3** | Red | Red | Red |

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposal 25**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.39**

**Motivation:** There is no requirements to name a person’s name before the bout, but the person on the piste should be accredited.

**t.39**

2 During the one-minute rests, an accredited person ~~named before the bout~~, may have access to the fencer.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

**t.39**

2 During the one-minute rests, an accredited person who is allowed on the Field of Play ~~named before the bout~~, may have access to the fencer.

**Proposal 26**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.62**

**Motivation:** To avoid unnecessary repetitions and have the regulations in case of the technical problems if a video is not available. Cf. articles t.62.2, t.61.1-2, t.62.3, t.62.4.

**t.62**

1 There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.

2 At all weapons and at any time, the referee on her/his own initiative may consult his monitor before making a decision.

3 If the fencers' scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision.

4 The video-referee may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

5 Once the referee, together with the video-referee, has analysed the action, ~~whether it is:~~
~~at the referee's initiative~~
~~at the request of the athlete~~
~~in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit~~
~~at the video-referee's request~~

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.

6 Each time the referee consults the video, ~~whether on his own initiative, following an appeal or at the suggestion of the video-referee~~, the opinions of the referee and the video-referee must be recorded on the match sheet.

7 In case of technical problems if a video is not available:

- once the referee has made a decision on the piste, that decision cannot be changed
- if no decision has been made, the Referee abstains
- it is up to the referee to make the final decision regarding a decisive hit

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green and the text in blue scratched.

**t.62**

1 There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.

2 At all weapons and at any time, the referee on her/his own initiative may consult his monitor before making a decision.

3 If the fencers' scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision.

4 The video-referee may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

5 Once the referee, together with the video-referee, has analysed the action, ~~whether it is:~~
~~at the referee's initiative~~
~~at the request of the athlete~~
~~in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit~~
~~at the video-referee's request~~

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.

6 Each time the referee consults the video, ~~whether on his own initiative, following an appeal or at the suggestion of the video-referee~~, the opinions of the referee and the video-referee must be recorded on the match sheet.

~~7 In case of technical problems if a video is not available:~~

- ~~once the referee has made a decision on the piste, that decision cannot be changed~~
- ~~if no decision has been made, the Referee abstains~~
- ~~it is up to the referee to make the final decision regarding a decisive hit~~

7 In the event that video-refereeing cannot be used due to technical issues:

- If the referee has already taken a decision on the piste, that decision shall stand.
- If no decision was taken, the referee shall abstain.
- In the case of a decisive hit, after attempting to initiate video-refereeing, the referee may make the final decision on the piste, even in the absence of video.

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**Proposal 27**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.64**

**Motivation:** The place inside the Piste Enclosure is for the referees working zone and must be free of foreign objects.

**t.64**

7. No recording devices placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the addition of the text in green.

**t.64**

7. No recording devices are placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

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**Proposal 28**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.71**

**Motivation:** To correct penalties for offences with clothing and equipment which does not conform with the Rules. For example, missing a control mark is a 2nd group, missing logo is elimination from the competition and not correct size is a 1st group of penalties as well as to make clear what should happen after 5 minutes if a fencer has no regular equipment.

**t.71**

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only one regulation weapon (cf. t.114, 115); or
- with only one regulation bodywire; or
- with only one regulation mask wire, or
- with a weapon or a bodywire which does not work, or which does not conform with the Rules; or
- without his protective under-plastron (cf. t.64.5); or
- with a conductive jacket which does not fully cover the valid target; or
- with a mask whose 2nd security device is not securely fixed to the body of the mask; or
- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.) ;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in ~~Articles t.158-162, t.165,~~ t.170~~, for the offences of the 1st group~~ and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes; otherwise, the fencer will be excluded from the competition.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 30**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.72**

**Motivation:** The fencer should not be penalized if the condition of the equipment changed during the bout in case a fencer does not notice this because he was focused on the next action.

**t.72**

When during a bout an irregularity is found in the equipment which could be caused by conditions **during** the bout:

Examples:

- conductive jacket with holes in which hits are registered as non-valid,

- weapon or bodywire no longer functioning,
- pressure of the spring in the point too weak,
- the travel in the point no longer regulation,
- a curve of the blade exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4)
- presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device.

the Referee will apply neither warning nor penalty and any hit scored with the equipment which has become defective will be awarded.

~~However, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose weapon, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, has a curve of the blade which exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4) commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.~~

~~Similarly, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose mask, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device (cf. m.25.7.f), commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with articles t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170.~~

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 31**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.73**

**Motivation:** Update t.73 for consistency with penalty chart and proper guidance. Article t.73.1 specifies penalties for offenses a-c and e-g but not for t.73.1.d (included in the penalty chart as a group 4 penalty).

**t.73**

**1** g) is equipped with electronic communication equipment permitting a person off the piste to communicate with the fencer during the bout;

then, in cases c), d), e), f) and g) above, the Referee must immediately confiscate the equipment (weapon, bodywire, if necessary conductive jacket, mask, protective under-plastron, breeches, etc.), and have it examined by the expert on duty.

**2** After having obtained the opinion of the expert (a member of the SEMI Committee at the fencing events at the Olympic Games and at World Championships), who has established the facts (cf.

m.33ss), the Referee will apply the following sanctions, without prejudice to the application of Article t.137.2/4;

- in cases c), d), e), f) and g) the Referee will penalise him as specified for offences of the 4th group (cf. Articles t.158-162, t.169, t.170).

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 32**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.124**

**Motivation:** The current P-card rule has not had a positive effect on fencers' behavior on the piste, particularly in épée. One minute is too long to wait before sanctioning passivity with a P-card, and it does not encourage fencers to be more offensive or to engage more actively in the bout.

In other combat sports, such as judo, if an athlete refuses to engage for 20 to 30 seconds, they are penalized with a yellow card. This rule creates a more dynamic rhythm and forces competitors to take initiative.

Therefore, reducing the passivity time to 30 seconds could encourage fencers to adopt a more offensive attitude and engage more quickly in the bout**. The P-card should be use starting with the pools.**

**(Non-combativity)**

**t.124**

**Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)**

There is unwillingness to fight when there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of unwillingness to fight, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!' as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

**1 Individual events ~~– Direct elimination~~**

~~P-yellow cards and~~ P-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1~~.c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P ~~-yellow-~~**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both fencers with~~ a P~~-red~~ **black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

ii) If the scores of the two fencers are not equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower score with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

**2 Team events**

~~P-yellow ,~~ P-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2.~~.c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P~~-yellow~~-**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both teams with~~ a P-~~red~~ **Black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores for the two teams are equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, with a P-Black card. The team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

ii) If the scores for the two teams are not equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-Black card. The team with the higher score wins the match.

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all 9 relays) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at 44-44.

b) In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.

c) In both individual and team competitions, the period/relay continues after the awarding of a ~~P-yellow or~~ P-Red card.

d) The ~~minute~~ **30 Seconds** starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled, each penalty hit and at the beginning of each period or relay.

e) The referee must record these ~~P-yellow,~~ P-red and P-black cards separately on the score sheet. The sanctions awarded for unwillingness to fight are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.

f) In both individual and team competitions, if, at the end of the regulation time, there is equality of scores, article t.124 does not apply and articles t.40.3 and t.41.5 will apply.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modification in green, in case Proposal 3 will be approved by the Congress (2 winning set formula for team event)

**Proposal 32 -a**

**(Non-combativity)**
**t.124**

**Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)**

There is unwillingness to fight when there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of unwillingness to fight, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!' as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

**1 Individual events – Direct elimination**

P-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1 b) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P red card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, a P **black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

ii) If the scores of the two fencers are not equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower score with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

**2 Team events**

P-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2. b) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P red card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight a P-**Black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores for the two teams are equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, with a P-Black card. The team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

ii) If the scores for the two teams are not equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-Black card. The team with the higher score wins the match.

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all ~~9~~ relays) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 14-14 or in team matches at 44-44.

No P-card (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 14-14 or in team matches at 14-14. (Applicable as a test for juniors from season 2027-2028).

b) In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.

c) In both individual and team competitions, the period/relay continues after the awarding of a P-Red card.

d) The ~~minute~~ **30 Seconds** starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled, each penalty hit and at the beginning of each period or relay.

e) The referee must record these P-red and P-black cards separately on the score sheet. The sanctions awarded for unwillingness to fight are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.

f) In both individual and team competitions, if, at the end of the regulation time, there is equality of scores, article t.124 does not apply and articles t.40.3 and t.41.5 will apply.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modification in green.

**Proposal 32 -b**

**(Non-combativity)**
**t.124**

**Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)**

There is unwillingness to fight when there is one minute of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of unwillingness to fight, the Referee will immediately call ‘Halt!’ as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

**1 Individual events ~~– Direct elimination~~**

P-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1 b) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P red card.

b) When, for the second time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, a P **black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

In pools, the fencer who receive a P-Black card will lose the bout and continue the competition.

ii) If the scores of the two fencers are not equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower score with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

**2 Team events**

P-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2. b) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P red card.

b) When, for the second time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight a P- **Black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores for the two teams are equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, with a P-Black card. The team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

ii) If the scores for the two teams are not equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-Black card. The team with the higher score wins the match.

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all 9 relays) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at 44-44.

b) In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.

c) In both individual and team competitions, the period/relay continues after the awarding of a P-Red card.

d) The minute starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled, each penalty hit and at the beginning of each period or relay.

e) The referee must record these P-red and P-black cards separately on the score sheet. The sanctions awarded for unwillingness to fight are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.

f) In both individual and team competitions, if, at the end of the regulation time, there is equality of scores, article t.124 does not apply and articles t.40.3 and t.41.5 will apply.

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**Proposal 33**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.127**

**Motivation:** Update t.127 with gender neutral language to better reflect our athletes. Gendered language that excludes female athletes can easily be updated to be inclusive

**t.127**

At the end of a bout, the Referee must bring together the two fencers, to announce clearly the score, which will be transmitted to the Directoire Technique. He must say clearly: '~~Mister~~ Fencer X won against ~~Mister~~ Fencer Y with the following score…'

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

**t.127**

At the end of a bout, the Referee must bring together the two fencers, to announce clearly the score and the winner, which will be transmitted to the Directoire Technique. ~~He must say clearly: 'Mister X won against Mister Y with the following score…'~~

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**Proposal 34**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.128**

**Motivation:** To stop giving hits away that has been common action in recent seasons and to avoid the awarding a black card for it as required in t.128 but penalize with a less serious penalty.

**Personal effort**

**t.128**

Competitors must fence to their utmost ability in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits or seeking to be favoured by being given hits by anyone ~~(cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170)~~. ~~Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group.~~

1 A hit giving away to the opponent should not be awarded and the fencer who do so should be penalised for the offences of the 1st group (cf. t.165, t.170);

2 Profit from a fraudulent agreement with his opponent to change a result of the bout or team match will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group (cf. t.169, t.170).

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour with the modifications in green.

**t.128**

Competitors must fence to their utmost ability in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits or seeking to be favoured by being given hits by anyone ~~(cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170)~~. ~~Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group.~~

1 A hit intentionally given ~~giving~~ away to the opponent shall ~~should~~ not be awarded, and the fencer who commits such an action shall ~~do so should~~ be penalised for ~~the~~ an offence~~s~~ of the 1st group (cf. t.165, t.170);

**2** Any fencer who ~~P~~profits from a fraudulent agreement with ~~his~~ their opponent to alter the ~~to change a~~ the result of ~~the~~ a bout or team match shall ~~will~~ be sanctioned for ~~the~~ an offences of the 4th group (cf. t.149, t.169, t.170).

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**Proposal 35**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.132**

**Motivation:** During the team match nobody should enter the Piste Enclosure as well as to leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission.

**t.132**

2 During team competitions, no one has the right to enter the Piste Enclosure or leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission. In the case of such an offence, the Referee will penalise the offending team as provided for in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170. A warning imposed on a team is valid for the complete team match. Should a fencer, within the same match, commit another offence from the First Group, the Referee will penalise him on each occasion with a Red Card.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor with the modifications in green.

**t.132**

**2** During a team match ~~competitions~~, no one has the right to enter or leave the Piste Enclosure ~~or leave the Team Enclosure~~ without the Referee's permission. In the case of such an offence, the Referee will penalise the offending team as provided for in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170. A warning imposed on a team is valid for the complete team match. Should a fencer, within the same match, commit another offence from the First Group, the Referee will penalise him on each occasion with a Red Card.

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**Proposal 36**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.150**

**Motivation:** Update t.150 by striking the words "failure to appear on the strip as required" and adding the specific rules which "weapons not in accordance with the rules" results in a Group 4 penalty. Article t.150 lists "failure to appear on the strip as required" as a reason of exclusion from the competition. This is inconsistent with t.118 and t.199 (and the penalty chart), which specify elimination as the penalty for failing to present oneself on strip when required. This matters for whether the fencer/team retains placement or is removed from the final rankings. The reference to "weapons not in accordance with the Rules" is problematic unless clarified to be considered to cover only issues related to t.73.1.c-f.

**t.150**

1 Exclusion from a competition may also be imposed for a disciplinary offence (~~failure to appear on the piste as required,~~ weapons not in accordance with the rules (t.73.1.c-f), reprehensible attitude towards an official, etc.).

2 The consequences of such exclusion for the competitor are the same as those described in Article t.149 above.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 37**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.170**

**Motivation:** Irrelevant article numbers in 1.1 and in 1.8 - **t.73.1.a** belongs to the 2nd group of penalties. **t.72** should be no penalty (proposal 32)

**t.170 1.1) 1.8)**

Offences and penalties

| | 1st group | | 1st offence | 2nd offence | 3rd offence and subseq. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.1 | Leaving piste without permission | ~~t.28.6~~ t.120 | | | |
| 1.2 | Corps à corps to avoid being hit * | t.25.2 | | | |
| 1.3 | Turning back on opponent * | t.27.2 | | | |
| 1.4 | Covering/substitution of valid target * | t.29.2, t.30.1, t.79, t.97 | | | |
| 1.5 | Touching/taking hold of electrical equipment * | t.29.3 | | | |
| 1.6 | Crossing lateral boundary of the piste to avoid being hit * | t.35.3 | | | |
| 1.7 | Interruption of bout without valid reason | t.43.2 | | | |
| 1.8 | Clothing/equipment not conforming. Curve of blade exceeding that permitted. Absence of regulation/spare weapon or bodywire | t.71, t.72, ~~t.70.1.a,~~ t.117 | | | |

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

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**Proposal 38**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.170**

**Motivation:** The offences of the same article t.121.2 and of the same group should not be separate in the table.

**t.170 1.15) 1.16)**

Offences and penalties

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.15 | ~~Jostling, disorderly fencing~~ * ; taking off mask before the Referee calls ' Halt!'; dressing or undressing on the piste | t.116, ~~t.121.2~~, t.125 | | | |
| 1.16 | Irregular movements on the piste *; hits made with violence *; Jostling, disorderly fencing*; Intentional fall to avoid the hit * | t.121.2 | | | |

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Proposal 39**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.170**

**Motivation:** The offences of the same article t.121 in the same group should not be separate in the table.

3.6 moves to 3.2

**t.170 3.2) 3.6)**

Offences and penalties

| | 3rd group | | 1st time | 2nd time |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3.1 | Fencer disturbing order when on piste. In the most serious cases, the Referee may award a black card immediately | t.108.2, t.137.2 | RED | BLACK |
| 3.2 | Dishonest fencing . Anti-sporting behaviour * | t.121 | RED | |
| 3.3 | Offence against Publicity Code | Publicity Code | | |
| 3.4 | Any person not on piste disturbing good order ; smoking in the competition halls (including with electronic cigarettes). In the most serious cases, the Referee may award a black card immediately | t.109, t.110, t.111, t.133, t.137.3/4, t.168 | YELLOW | BLACK |
| 3.5 | Warming up or training without wearing fencing clothing or equipment that conforms to the FIE regulations. | t.20.2 | | |
| 3.6 | ~~Anti-sporting behaviour~~ | ~~t.121.2~~ | RED | |

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

**Proposal 5**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.22**

**Motivation:** No supervisor in GP

**o.22**

1 The Organizing Committees of Grands Prix, Senior and Junior World Cup events, individual and team, and of Cadet World Cup events, must ensure the presence of a supervisor of the FIE from a country other than that where the competition is held, whose task it will be to verify that the competition properly fulfils the World Cup criteria

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** The proposal was withdrawn, because Article o.22 was modified by Proposal 4, made by the Executive Committee

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**Proposal 29**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.71**

**Motivation:** To delete the explanation in the brackets in article t.71 because it creates confusion in the interpretation of the rules

**t.71**

If a fencer appears on the piste:

.....

- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.);

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** Withdraw Proposal 29 in support of Proposal 28.

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Material Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 40**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Structural Proposal: Adoption of the Two-Book Model for the FIE Material Rules**

**Motivation:** The SEMI Commission proposes that the Material Rules (the "M Book") be separated into:

(1) a **Material Rules Book (Book M)** containing all competition-side rules, and

(2) a **Materials Homologation Handbook (Book MH)** containing technical specifications, test methods, and homologation procedures for manufacturers, suppliers, and testing laboratories.

The Handbook is a highly technical document. Its content currently resides in Annexe A and Annexe B, intermingled with competition rules, making both harder to use. Several test methods in the current annexes are incomplete or missing.

The SEMI Commission, consistent with its mandate under FIE Statutes Article 6.5.4(e) to "lay down the testing procedure for such equipment," needs flexibility to develop and update these procedures in a timely manner to stay updated on safety and innovative technologies.

Congress continues to retain full authority over all safety standards and competition rules under FIE Statutes Article 3.2.3, the Congress "determines the modifications to be made to the Statutes, the Rules for the competitions". The Executive Committee continues to maintain institutional oversight and finally, the Handbook is still fully binding as Book M explicitly requires compliance with the Handbook.

This reorganization:

1. Separates the M Book into two documents with distinct audiences and governance pathways
2. Preserves all existing rules, safety standards, and homologation obligations without substantive change
3. Delegates technical testing procedures to the SEMI Commission and Executive Committee, consistent with FIE Statutes Article 6.5.4
4. Supports reorganization of scattered information into clear topics and areas and focuses the content to key stakeholders (competition-side vs. testing/homologation).
5. Enables the SEMI Commission to fill gaps in current test methods and update procedures as technology evolves
6. Aligns FIE practice with the standard approach used by major international sports federations.

**Proposed Resolution**

The SEMI Commission requests that the Congress approve the following:

1. That the Material Rules be restructured into: (a) Book M (competition-side rules, amended by Congress) and (b) Book MH (technical specifications, adopted by the Executive Committee on the SEMI Commission's proposal).
2. That the SEMI Commission be authorized to update technical procedures in Book MH, provided safety thresholds in Book M are maintained.
3. That compliance with Book MH be mandatory for all manufacturers, suppliers, and laboratories seeking FIE homologation.
4. That Annexe A and Annexe B be removed from the Material Rules, as their content is incorporated into Book M (Chapter 6) and Book MH.
5. That all changes to Book MH follow transparent versioning with communication to federations and manufacturers.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposal 41**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**NEW Materials Rule**

**Motivation:**

The proposed restructuring of the Material Rules does change the substance of the rules; it reorganizes them to be clearer, more precise, and easier to use for referees, weapons control, and federations.

What Does NOT Change

1. Technical requirements
2. Safety standards
3. Governance
4. Homologation requirements

The comparison tables will be used as a reference document. Every article and requirement from the 2025 Material Rules has been carried over and is traceable: either into the new Material Rules Book or into the new Materials Homologation Handbook, with explicit mappings for legal and rules verification.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposal 42**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**NEW Materials homologation handbook**

**Motivation:**

This handbook contains the technical specifications, test methods, laboratory procedures, and manufacturing standards necessary for the homologation of fencing equipment and materials used in FIE competitions.

This handbook is a companion document to the **Materials Rules (Book M)**, which governs competition-side obligations. This handbook focuses exclusively on manufacturer-side requirements, test procedures, and homologation processes.

**Key Principles:**

- Materials Rules Book → What is allowed in the Field of Play (referee/fencer focused)
- Materials Homologation Handbook →Equipment requirements, how it is tested and certified (manufacturer/laboratory focused)

The Materials Homologation Handbook will follow a controlled SEMI process, with transparent versioning and communication to federations and manufacturers, addressing past concerns about changes not being clearly communicated.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor.

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**Proposals 43 until 117**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**75 proposals below for the FIE Material Rules.**

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favor.

**Article m.1**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.1 “Characteristics Common to All Weapons” provides only a brief enumeration of weapon types, a general conformity statement, and a general safety prohibition, without establishing scope, definitions, or compliance obligations for the Book. The restructured Article m.1 “General Provisions” introduces a formal framework that was previously absent, while drawing on principles from old m.1.1 (weapon types), old m.1.2 (conformity requirement), and old m.37 (fencer responsibility and weapons control obligations).

This reorganization:

1. Establishes a clear scope and application statement for the entire Material Rules Book
2. Provides formal definitions (Weapon, Equipment, Tip, Earth circuit, Official Safety Documents, Competition) that were previously undefined or implied across multiple articles
3. Creates an explicit mandatory Weapons Control compliance obligation
4. Sets a foundation of precedence rules for conflict resolution between this Book and other FIE documents
5. Maintains all existing principles without substantive change to technical requirements

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~~**PART 1. FENCERS' WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT**~~

~~**CHAPTER 1. WEAPONS** **Chapter 1: Global Requirements**~~

~~**CHARACTERISTICS COMMON TO ALL WEAPONS**~~

## m.1. General Provisions

**1. Scope** ~~There are three types of weapon: foil, épée and sabre.~~

This Book sets out the material and safety requirements applicable to all weapons and equipment used in fencing.

**2. Application, Amendment, and Precedence** ~~All weapons are authorised providing only that they conform to these regulations and to the safety standards which are annexed.~~

1. This Book must apply to all competitions organized, sanctioned, or recognized by the FIE.
2. In case of conflict concerning material and safety requirements, the provisions of this Book and the official safety documents must prevail.
3. SEMI Commission reserves the right to modify or supplement the technical requirements and handbooks whenever developments in technology, experience, or laboratory testing allow improvements in safety or performance.
4. Any such modifications must be communicated to member federations and manufacturers through official FIE channels and procedures.

**3. Definitions** ~~The weapon should be so constructed that it cannot normally injure either the user or his opponent. All methods of treating a blade between the guard and the tip (button) including the groove, by grinding, filing, heating or other methods, are forbidden.~~

1. Weapon must mean a foil, épée, or sabre conforming to this Book.
2. Equipment must mean components forming part of or attached to a weapon, including but not limited to clothing, protective gear, or device worn or used by a fencer or referee.
3. Official Safety Documents must mean documents issued by the FIE relating to safety standards, notices or safety directives through its official channels.
4. Competition must mean any FIE competition.

5. Tip must mean the forward extremity of the blade, including the electrical tip assembly on foil and épée and the striking end of the blade on sabre.
6. Earth circuit must also mean ground circuit.

**4. Mandatory Weapons Control Compliance**

1. All weapons and equipment used in competition must comply with this Book.
2. Weapons and equipment used in competition must be subject to official Weapons Control procedures as set out in Chapter 5.

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**Proposal 44**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.2**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.2 “General description” provides component descriptions for all weapons (blade, handle, guard). The restructured Article m.2 “General Technical Requirements” replaces this with overarching technical provisions. Old m.2 component descriptions are redistributed to new m.3 “General Construction of Weapons.” The new sub-sections draw content from other old articles: “Types of Weapons” repurposes old m.1.1 (weapon type enumeration); “Conformity Requirement” expands old m.1.2 (conformity statement) into a formal compliance framework; “General Safety Principle” expands old m.1.3 (safety prohibition) from “should not injure” to “must not foreseeably cause injury.” “Prohibition of Circumvention” and “Functional Integrity” are entirely new provisions with no prior equivalent.

This reorganization:

1. Redistributes old m.2 component descriptions to new m.3
2. Moves weapon type enumeration (from old m.1.1) into a dedicated sub-section
3. Establishes an explicit conformity requirement with a non-use rule (expanding old m.1.2)
4. Modernizes the safety principle (expanding old m.1.3)
5. Adds new anti-circumvention and functional integrity provisions

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~~**General description**~~

**m.2. General Technical Requirements**

**1. Types of Weapons** ~~All weapons are composed of the following parts.~~

There are three types of weapon: Foil, Épée, Sabre.

**2. Conformity Requirement** ~~1. A flexible steel blade completed at its forward extremity by a button and at the rear by the tang (the latter included in the handle when the weapon is mounted). At all three weapons, the use of maraging steel blades is obligatory.~~

1. A weapon must conform in all respects to the material, construction, and dimensional requirements set out in this Book.
2. A weapon that does not conform must not be used in competition.
3. Only members of the SEMI Commission or the Directoire Technique can require verification of conformity to the Book and to homologation requirements in Chapter 6.

**3. General Safety Principle** ~~2. A handle within which the tang of the blade is fixed, and which enables the fencer's hand to hold the weapon. It may be composed of one or several parts: in the latter case it is divided into a grip (which is normally held in the hand) and a pommel (rear portion of the handle which locks the handle onto the tang).~~

1. A weapon must be constructed and maintained so that it does not intentionally or foreseeably cause injury beyond valid fencing actions.
2. Sharpening of the point or edges, grinding, filing, heating, or other methods that could create a cutting, slicing, or otherwise dangerous surface, are forbidden.

**4. Prohibition of Circumvention** ~~3. A metal guard fixed (with the convex face towards the front) between the blade and the handle, serving to protect the sword hand. For foil and épée, the guard must contain a padding or cushion (cf. m.5/2) to reduce the effect of blows. It will also contain a socket to which the bodywire can be connected.~~

No component or modification must be used to circumvent the intent or effect of these Rules.

**5. Functional Integrity**

A weapon must remain structurally sound and functionally reliable under normal competitive use.

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**Proposal 45**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.3**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.3 "Dimensions" defines measurement planes (A–E), distances, and blade-straightening rules for measurement. The restructured Article m.3 "General Construction of Weapons" replaces this with comprehensive construction provisions. Old m.3 measurement content is redistributed to new m.4 "Weapon Measurements and Dimensions." The new sub-sections draw content from multiple old articles: "Components of a Weapon" repurposes old m.2 (blade, handle, guard enumeration); "Blade — General Construction" and "Blade — Material

Requirements" draw from old m.2.1 (blade description and maraging steel requirement); "Blade — Surface Condition" repurposes old m.1.3 (blade treatment prohibition); "Guard" sub-sections draw from old m.5 (guard shape, surface, padding); "Handle" sub-sections draw from old m.4 (handle lengths, gauge, restrictions, orthopaedic conditions); "Tang — General Requirements" and "Socket Assembly" are entirely new provisions.

This reorganization:

1.. Redistributes old m.3 dimension content to new m.4

2. Consolidates weapon component descriptions from old m.2, m.4, and m.5 into one construction article

3. Adds detailed tang requirements previously absent

4. Creates discrete sub-sections for guard, handle, and socket assembly

5. Maintains all existing technical values while adding structural clarity

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~~Dimensions~~ **Chapter 2: Weapons**

**Part 1: All Weapon Parameters**

### m.3. General Construction of Weapons

~~Each weapon has its particular design and measurements.~~

~~1. The length of the blade includes the button and everything which is added in front of the convex surface of the guard whether or not it is fixed to the latter.~~

**1. Components of a Weapon**

A weapon must be composed of the following components:

1. Blade;
2. Tang;
3. Guard;
4. Handle;
5. Socket.

**2. Blade — General Construction** ~~2. The total length of the weapon and its various parts corresponds to the distances between lines (planes) drawn parallel to each other and perpendicular to the axis of the blade. These lines are situated: a. A at the forward extremity of the weapon; b. B at the point where the blade leaves the front, convex, surface of the guard; c. C at the back of the aforesaid guard; d. D between the grip and the pommel; e. E at the rear extremity of the handle.~~

1. The blade must be constructed of flexible steel.
2. The blade must bend under normal fencing actions without breaking.

**3. Blade — Material Requirements** ~~3. The total length of the weapon is the distance between lines A and E; the length of the blade that between A and B; the length of the handle that between B and E; and the depth of the guard that between B and C.~~

For all three weapons, blades must be manufactured from maraging steel.

**4. Blade — Surface Condition** ~~4. The maximum total length of the weapon must be less than the greatest permissible length for the blade and the handle added together. These two latter lengths must, therefore, complement each other to arrive at the total length of the weapon.~~

The blade must not be sharpened, ground, heated, or otherwise treated in a manner that creates a hazardous surface.

**5. Tang — General Requirements** ~~5. In order to measure either the total length of the weapon or the length of the blade, it is essential that the latter should be without any curve. When measurements are being made, the blade should therefore be held straight on a flat surface.~~

1. The tang must form an integral continuation of the blade and must be manufactured from the same steel as the blade.
2. The tang must be designed and manufactured so that it maintains the structural integrity of the blade–handle assembly under normal competitive use.
3. Any transitions between the blade portion and the tang must be free of cracks or other defects.
4. The tang must be securely fixed within the handle so that it cannot loosen or rotate under normal competitive use.
5. No component, treatment, or modification of the tang may be used to circumvent the intent or effect of these Rules.

**6. Guard — General Requirements** ~~6. Only the pommel or the locking nut may be placed between lines D and E.~~

1. The guard must protect the hand and wrist without creating undue risk.
2. Material must conform with the requirements in the Homologation Handbook.

**7. Guard — External Surface**

1. The guard must be in a convex shape.
2. The external surface must be smooth.
3. The guard finish must not produce a distracting glare.
4. The guard must not include features that catch or hold the opponent's point.
5. The guard must not have a raised rim.
6. The guard must not feature any advertising.

**8. Guard — Internal Padding**

Internal materials must not enlarge the protective area beyond dimensional limits.

**9. Guard — Mounting**

The guard must be mounted and fixed between the blade and the handle with the convex face toward the front.

**10. Handle — General Requirements**

1. The handle must be composed of one or several parts.
2. A handle with several parts is divided into a grip and a pommel or a grip and locking nut.
3. A handle must comply with the regulations intended to place the various types of weapons on an equal footing.

**11. Handle — Structural Requirements**

1. The handle must be securely fixed.
2. The handle must not contain sharp edges.

**12. Handle — Design Restrictions**

1. The handle for thrusting weapons must have a notch of 2 mm minimum depth.
2. Handles must not contain concealed devices, concealed wires or any component not expressly permitted under these Rules.
3. Throwing-assist mechanisms must not be permitted.
4. The handle design must not circumvent or indirectly avoid the dimensional limits set out in m.4.
5. The handle must not include any device or component that projects beyond the external perimeter of the guard.
6. No portion of the grip must be designed or shaped to increase the protection of the hand or wrist beyond that provided by the guard.

**13. Handle — Special Shape (Orthopedic)**

If the handle or glove includes any device, attachment, or special (orthopaedic) shape that fixes the position of the hand, the handle must:

1. Fix the hand in one, and only one, position on the handle; and
2. In that position, keep the tip of the fully extended thumb no more than 2 cm from the inner surface of the guard.

**14. Socket Assembly — General Requirements**

1. Each weapon must contain a socket assembly.
2. The socket assembly must be fixed between the guard and the handle.

**Proposal 46**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.4**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.4 “The handle” (old m.4.1–m.4.6) describes handle lengths, gauge requirements, handle type restrictions, throwing prohibition, protection restrictions, and orthopaedic handle conditions. The restructured Article m.4 “Weapon Measurements and Dimensions” replaces this with a consolidated dimensional reference. Old m.4 handle content is redistributed to new m.3 “General Construction of Weapons”: handle lengths (old m.4.1) move to new m.4 “Maximum Handle Length” with all values preserved; handle gauge (old m.4.2) moves to new m.3 “Handle — Structural Requirements”; handle types (old m.4.3) to new m.3 “Handle — General Requirements”; throwing prohibition (old m.4.4) and protection restriction (old m.4.5) to new m.3 “Handle — Design Restrictions”; orthopaedic conditions (old m.4.6) to new m.3 “Handle — Special Shape.” New m.4 draws its measurement plane and distance content from old m.3 “Dimensions” (planes A–E, distances). “Measurement Procedure” is a new provision referencing Chapter 5 (Weapons Control). This reorganization: 1. Consolidates all dimensional definitions (from old m.3) and handle lengths (from old m.4.1) into one article 2. Redistributes old m.4 handle requirements to new m.3 construction sub-sections 3. Adds an explicit measurement procedure reference to Chapter 5 4. Preserves all dimensional values without change 5. Creates a single reference point for all weapon measurement definitions

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~~The handle~~ **Chapter 2: Weapons**

**Part 1: All Weapon Parameters**

## m.4. Weapon Measurements and Dimensions

**1. Measurement Planes** ~~1. The maximum length of the handle at foil and épée is 20 cm, measured between lines B and E, and 18 cm, measured between lines B and D. At sabre the maximum length of the handle is 17 cm.~~

1. Measurement planes A through E must define reference points for dimensional compliance.
2. These planes are all parallel to one another and perpendicular to the axis of the blade.
   a. Plane A at the forward extremity of the weapon.
   b. Plane B at the point where the blade exits the front convex surface of the guard.
   c. Plane C at the rear surface of the guard.
   d. Plane D at the junction between the grip and the pommel.
   e. Plane E at the rear extremity of the handle.

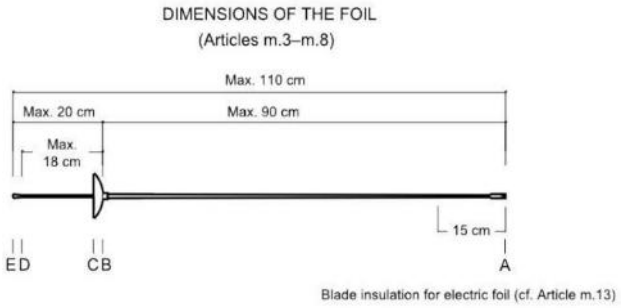



**Figure 1: Planes of the weapon**

**2. Measurement Distances** ~~2. The handle must be able to pass through the same gauge as the guard. It must be so made that normally it cannot injure either the user or his opponent.~~

Distances are measured along the axis of the blade between the planes where the blade is straight (perpendicular to the plane of measurement):

1. Total weapon length: the distance between planes A and E.
2. Blade length: the distance between planes A and B.
3. Handle length — with pommel: the distance between planes B and E.
4. Handle length — without pommel: the distance between planes B and rear extremity of the grip.
5. Guard depth: the distance between planes B and C.

**3. Measurement Procedure** ~~3. All types of handle are allowed providing that they conform to the regulations which have been framed with a view to placing the various types of weapons on the same footing. However, at épée, orthopaedic handles, whether metal or not, may not be covered with leather or any material which could hide wires or switches.~~

Measurement procedures must follow provisions and process set forth in Chapter 5 (see m.57 and other applicable Weapons Control procedures).

**4. Maximum Handle Length** ~~4. The handle must not include any device which assists the fencer to use it as a throwing weapon~~

1. Foil and Épée — without a separate pommel: Plane B to Plane E = 20 cm.
2. Foil and Épée — with a separate pommel: Plane B to Plane D = 18 cm.
3. Sabre: Plane B to Plane E = 17 cm.

~~5. The handle must not include any device which can increase in any way the protection afforded to the hand or wrist of the fencer by the guard: a cross bar or electric socket which extends beyond the edge of the guard is expressly forbidden.~~

~~6. If the handle (or glove) includes any device or attachment or has a special shape (orthopaedic) which fixes the position of the hand on the handle, the handle must conform to the following conditions:~~

~~a. It must determine and fix one position only for the hand on the handle.~~

~~b. When the hand occupies this one position on the handle, the extremity of the thumb when completely extended must not be more than 2 cm from the inner surface of the guard.~~

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**Proposal 47**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.5**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.5 "The guard" (old m.5.1–m.5.5) describes guard surface requirements, padding/wiring provisions, socket attachment systems, electrical resistance limits, and equipment checking requirements applicable across all weapons. The restructured Article m.5 "Foil General Characteristics" replaces this with a single foil-specific nature statement. Old m.5 content is redistributed: guard surface (old m.5.1) moves to new m.3 "Guard — General Requirements"; padding and wiring (old m.5.2) to new m.8 "Foil Guard — Padding" and new m.9 "Foil Electrical System"; socket attachment (old m.5.3) to new m.3 "Socket Assembly — Detachment, Security"; electrical resistance (old m.5.4) to new m.9 "Foil Electrical System — Electrical Resistance"; equipment and checking (old m.5.5) to new m.2 "General Technical Requirements" and new m.3 construction provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear foil-specific introduction article
2. Redistributes cross-weapon guard requirements to the general construction article (new m.3)
3. Places foil-specific guard details in new m.8
4. Consolidates electrical provisions in new m.9

---

~~The guard~~ **Part 2: Foil Specific Requirements**

**m.5. Foil General Characteristics**

**1. Nature of the Weapon** ~~1. The convex face of the guard must have a shape and surface which is both smooth and not too shiny. It must be so made that it can neither hold nor catch the opponent's point. It must not have a raised rim.~~

The foil is a thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of a spring-loaded tip connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

~~2. a) For foil and épée, inside the guard there must be a cushion (padding) sufficiently wide to protect the electric wires from the fencer's fingers. The padding on the inside of the guard must be less than 2 cm thick and must be arranged in such a way as not to increase the protection which the guard affords the hand.~~

~~b. The connections must be so arranged that it is impossible for the fencer to break or make contacts while fencing.~~

~~c. On foils, the wire must be protected by an insulating sheath.~~

~~d. On épées, the two wires must be protected by two insulating sheaths, one on each wire.~~

~~e. Both the wire and the insulating sheath must go right up to the socket.~~

~~f. In no case may uninsulated wires project beyond the point where they are attached to the socket (cf. m.29, m.31).~~

~~3. Any system of attachment inside the guard is allowed, provided that it conforms to the following requirements.~~

~~a) It must be easy to detach or attach the bodywire.~~

~~b) It must be possible to check it.~~

~~c) It must have a security device which prevents the bodywire from becoming unplugged during the bout. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire.~~

~~d) It must ensure the complete connection of the electric wires; it must be impossible for even a momentary break of contact to occur while the plugs are connected.~~

~~e) It must not include any part which allows electrical contact to be made between the plug sockets.~~

~~4. a) The maximum electrical resistance allowed for foil and épée is 2 ohms and for sabre 1 ohm.~~

~~5. a) At foil and épée, only traditional or homologated pointes d'arrêt are accepted.~~

~~b. In order that the registering of hits by the contact of the point on the opponent be correctly registered by the scoring device, the pointes d'arrêt must be clean. The electrical resistance measured in ohms must not exceed the limit of two ohms (m.5.4.a).~~

~~c. The blades and the guards at épée, foil and sabre must be totally of metal. Apart from at sabre where the part of the guard next to the pommel is insulated (insulating sheath), their exteriors must not be covered by any material (plastic or other). The guard may not feature any advertising. This is also the case for the insulated part of the sabre guard.~~

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**Proposal 48**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.6**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.6 "Weight" (old m.6) contains only the foil total weight limit (500 g). The restructured Article m.6 "Foil Dimensions and Weight" consolidates all foil dimensional and weight limits into a single article. "Maximum Total Length" draws from old m.7 (110 cm total length); "Maximum Blade Length" draws from old m.8.4 (90 cm blade length); "Maximum Weight" expands old m.6 with explicit component definitions and measurement procedure references.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all foil dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.7 and blade length from old m.8.4
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions

4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

---

~~**Weight**~~

### m.6. Foil Dimensions and Weight

**1. Maximum Total Length** ~~The total weight of the foil ready for use must be less than 500 g.~~

The total length of the foil, measured between plane A and plane E of a straight blade, must not exceed 110 cm (see Figure 2, m.4, and m.57).

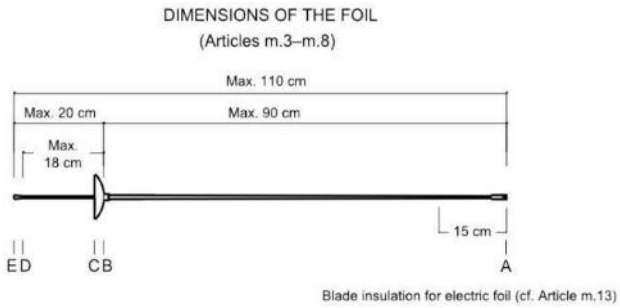



**Figure 2: Dimension of the foil**

**2. Maximum Blade Length**

The blade length, measured between plane A and plane B, must not exceed 90 cm (see Figure 2, m.4, and m.57).

**3. Maximum Weight**

1. For the purposes of Foil, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket, tip assembly, insulation, and internal wiring.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the foil must be less than 500g.
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures (see m.55–m.57).

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**Proposal 49**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.7**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.7 “Length” (old m.7) contains only the foil maximum total length (110 cm). The restructured Article m.7 “Foil Blade” consolidates all foil blade-specific provisions into one article. “Cross Section” draws from old m.8.1 (rectangular section); “Material” from old m.8.1 (steel/Annexe A reference); “Orientation” from old m.8.3 (widest face horizontal); “Edge Treatment” from old m.8.2 (chamfer requirements); “Flexibility” from old m.8.5 (bend 5.5–9.5 cm); “Curvature” from old m.8.6 (max 1 cm); “Blade Tip” from old m.12.4 (minimum 3.5 mm diameter). This reorganization: 1. Gathers all blade characteristics from old m.8 into a dedicated blade article 2. Moves the total length provision to new m.6 3. Adds blade tip dimensional requirements from old m.12 4. References Weapons Control procedures for verification

---

~~**Length**~~

## m.7. Foil Blade

**1. Cross Section** ~~1. The maximum total length of the foil is 110 cm.~~

The blade must be rectangular in cross-section.

**2. Material**

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook (see m.69).

**3. Orientation**

1. The blade must be mounted with the widest face horizontal.
2. The groove must be positioned uppermost.

**4. Edge Treatment**

1. The edges of the blade must be chamfered.
2. The chamfer must form an angle of 45° ± 5°.
3. The chamfer must measure 0.5 mm ± 0.1 mm on each side.
4. The edges must be smooth and must not be capable of cutting.

**5. Flexibility**

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend between 5.5 cm and 9.5 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from Plane A.

c. The bend of the blade is measured from Plane A between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 3).

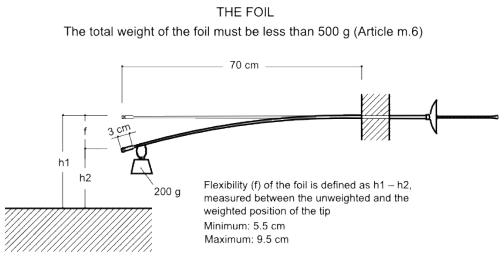



**Figure 3: Foil blade flexibility verification**

## 6. Curvature

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 1 cm.
2. The curvature must only be in the vertical plane.
3. The curvature must be near the center of the blade.
4. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way (see Figure 4):
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
   b. The position of the curve is uppermost.
   c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade.
   d. The curvature must be measured as described above (see m.57 for general measurement rules).

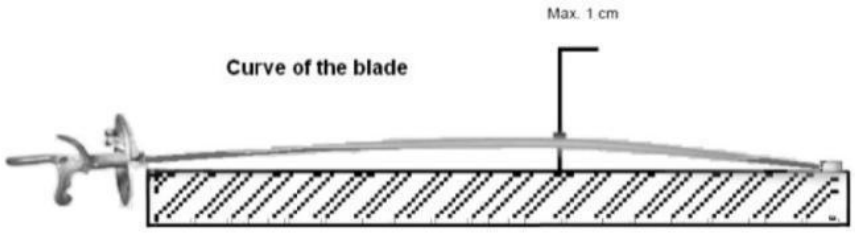



**Figure 4: Foil blade curvature**

## 7. Blade Tip

1. The diameter at the end of a bare blade closest to Plane A must not be less than 3.5 mm prior to threading.
2. No wrapping or artificial enlargement of the blade diameter must be permitted.

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**Proposal 50**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.8**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.8 “The blade” (old m.8.1–m.8.6) describes blade cross-section, edge treatment, mounting orientation, maximum blade length, flexibility, and curvature. The restructured Article m.8 “Foil Guard” covers foil guard diameter, blade position, padding, gauge compliance, and socket assembly. Old m.8 blade content is redistributed: cross-section (old m.8.1) to new m.7 “Foil Blade — Cross Section”; edge treatment (old m.8.2) to new m.7 “Edge Treatment”; mounting (old m.8.3) to new m.7 “Orientation”; blade length (old m.8.4) to new m.6 “Maximum Blade Length”; flexibility (old m.8.5) to new m.7 “Flexibility”; curvature (old m.8.6) to new m.7 “Curvature.” New m.8 guard content draws from old m.9 (guard gauge and diameter) and old m.5 (padding and socket requirements).

This reorganization:

1. Moves all blade provisions from old m.8 to new m.7
2. Creates a dedicated foil guard article
3. Draws guard content from old m.9 and old m.5
4. Adds socket assembly requirements

---

~~**The blade**~~

## m.8. Foil Guard

**1. Diameter** ~~1. The blade, which is rectangular in section, must be made of steel complying with the safety standards described in Annexe A to the Rules.~~

The diameter of the guard must not be less than 9.5 cm and must not exceed 12 cm.

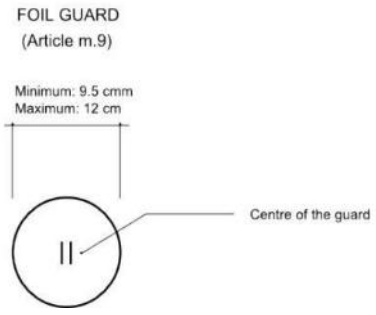



**Figure 5: Foil guard**

**2. Position of the Blade** ~~2. The edges must be smoothed off so that they cannot cut, and must be chamfered at an angle of 45° (± 5°), 0.5 mm on each side (± 0.1 mm), so that they will neither cut nor become capable of cutting.~~

The blade must pass through the center of the guard.

**3. Padding** ~~3. The blade is mounted with the widest face placed horizontally.~~

1. The interior must contain padding of cushioning material.
2. Padding must not exceed 2 cm in thickness.

**4. Gauge Compliance** ~~4. The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm (cf. m.3).~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The foil guard must pass through a cylindrical gauge of 12 cm diameter and 15 cm length (see m.4 and m.57 for dimensional checks).
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the cylinder.

**5. Foil Guard Socket Assembly** ~~5. The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of minimum 5.5 cm and maximum 9.5 cm measured in the following way. a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button. b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from the extremity of the button. c. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 8).~~

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the body wire is plugged.
2. The socket assembly must ensure reliable electrical contact during all fencing actions (see m.36–m.37 for body wire and plug requirements).
3. The socket assembly must be secured to prevent disconnection during the bout.

~~6. The blade should be as straight as possible. Any curve of the blade must be uniform and the maximum bend must in any case be less than one cm; it is only permitted in the vertical plane and must be near the centre of the blade. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i) the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii) the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 8).~~

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**Proposal 51**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.9**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.9 “The guard (cf. m.5)” (old m.9.1–m.9.2) describes the foil guard gauge requirement (12 cm diameter, 15 cm cylinder) and guard diameter limits (9.5–12 cm). The restructured Article m.9 “Foil Electrical System” covers the electrical wire, resistance, and circuit function. Old m.9 guard content moves to new m.8 “Foil Guard — Gauge Compliance” and

“Diameter.” New m.9 electrical content draws from old m.10 (electric wire and groove), old m.5.4 (2-ohm resistance limit), and old m.11.6 (earth circuit function).

This reorganization:

1. Moves guard gauge/diameter from old m.9 to new m.8
2. Creates a dedicated electrical system article for the foil
3. Consolidates wire, resistance, and circuit provision
4. Draws from old m.10, m.5.4, and m.11.6

---

~~The guard (cf. m.5)~~

### m.9. Foil Electrical System

**1. Electrical Wire** ~~1. The guard must be able to pass through a straight cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 12 cm and a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel with the axis of the cylinder.~~

1. The foil must contain a single insulated electrical wire.
2. The wire must be securely affixed by glue within a groove along the entire length of the blade.
3. The wire must permanently connect the pointe d'arrêt to the socket.

**2. Electrical Resistance** ~~2. The blade must pass through the centre of the guard. The diameter of the guard must be between 9.5 cm and 12 cm.~~

1. The total electrical resistance of the foil must not exceed 2 ohms.
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures.

**3. Circuit Function**

1. When the tip assembly is not depressed, the circuit must be closed.
2. When the tip assembly is depressed in accordance with this Book, the circuit must be interrupted.
3. The electrical characteristics of the foil must be compatible with the central judging apparatus (see Chapter 4 and m.43).

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**Proposal 52**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.10**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.10 "Electric wire" (old m.10) describes only the single electric wire glued in the blade groove connecting the pointe d'arrêt to the socket. The restructured Article m.10 "Foil Tip Assembly" is a comprehensive article covering all tip assembly components, materials, dimensions, mounting, construction, travel, circuit function, and pressure requirements. Content draws from old m.11 (pointe d'arrêt dimensions from old m.11.1–2, pressure from old m.11.3, travel from old m.11.4, mounting from old m.11.5, circuit from old m.11.6) and old m.13.2 (flange diameter). New provisions are added for tip assembly component listing, material requirements, spring construction, and barrel construction.

This reorganization:

1. Moves electric wire from old m.10 to new m.9
2. Creates a comprehensive tip assembly article
3. Draws pointe d'arrêt provisions from old m.11
4. Draws flange provision from old m.13.2
5. Adds new component, material, spring, and barrel provisions

---

~~**Electric wire**~~

## m.10. Foil Tip Assembly

### 1. Tip Assembly Components ~~1. The foil has a single wire, glued in a groove cut the whole length of the blade, which permanently connects the pointe d'arrêt to the corresponding socket inside the guard. The groove in the blade must be uppermost.~~

A tip assembly must consist of:

1. An insulated pointe d'arrêt
2. A flange that is smaller in diameter to the pointe d'arrêt
3. A spring
4. A barrel that is a separate hollow cylindrical body

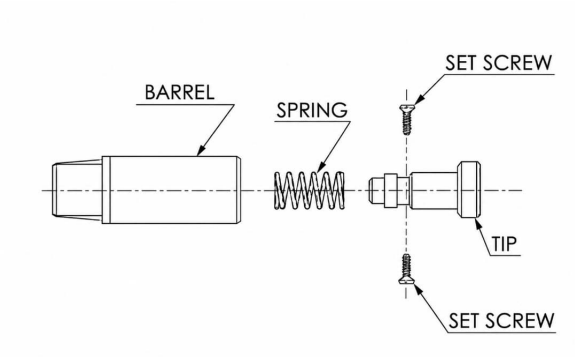



**Figure 6: Foil Tip Assembly**

### 2. Tip Assembly Material

1. The components of the tip assembly must be manufactured from materials that:
   a. Provide sufficient mechanical durability under normal competitive use;
   b. Maintain consistent electrical performance as required by this Book; and
   c. Resist corrosion or degradation that could affect safety or electrical function.
2. Material specifications and approved alloys must be defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

### 3. Pointe d’arrêt — Dimensions

1. The pointe d’arrêt must be cylindrical.
2. The front surface of the pointe d’arrêt is flat and perpendicular to its axis.
3. The diameter of the pointe d’arrêt must be between 5.5 mm and 7 mm.

### 4. Pointe d’arrêt — Edge Dimension

The edge of the pointe d’arrêt must be either:

1. Rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm; or
2. Chamfered at 45° with a width of 0.5 mm.

### 5. Pointe d’arrêt — Mounting

1. The pointe d’arrêt must be retained within the barrel in at least two places equidistant from each other.
2. Other methods of mounting must be approved by the SEMI Commission.

### 6. Flange — Construction

1. The flange must be fixed to the pointe d’arrêt.2. The flange must have a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d’arrêt.

### 7. Spring — Construction

1. Springs must be manufactured from materials capable of maintaining their elastic properties under repeated compression during normal competitive use.
2. The spring must be capable of lifting a weight of 500 grams ±2 grams (see m.61 for required test weights).

### 8. Barrel — Construction

1. The barrel must be a length from 7–8 mm.
2. The barrel must have a smooth external surface.

### 9. Tip Assembly — Travel

1. The total travel of the pointe d’arrêt must not exceed 1 mm.
2. Travel must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures and the checking apparatus requirements (m.61) in the following way:
   a. Gauge measurement with a tolerance not exceeding ±0.05 mm (see m.57 and m.61 for tip travel gauges).

### 10. Tip Assembly — Circuit Function

1. The pointe d’arrêt must maintain electrical contact with the earth circuit of the foil when not depressed.

2. The circuit must be interrupted when the pointe d'arrêt is depressed.
3. No wrapping, coating, or artificial enlargement of the blade diameter must be permitted.

**11. Tip Assembly — Pressure**

1. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt to interrupt the circuit must exceed 500 grams.
2. Pressure must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. A weight of 500g ±2 g must be lifted by the spring of the tip assembly (see m.61).

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**Proposal 53**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.11**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.11 "Pointe d'arrêt" (old m.11.1–m.11.6) describes pointe d'arrêt dimensions, cylindrical shape, pressure requirements, travel limits, retention methods, and earth circuit function. The restructured Article m.11 "Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface" covers the threaded interface between blade and tip assembly. Old m.11 pointe d'arrêt content moves to new m.10 "Foil Tip Assembly" (dimensions to m.10 sub 3–4; pressure to m.10 sub 11; travel to m.10 sub 9; mounting to m.10 sub 5; circuit to m.10 sub 10). New m.11 interface content draws from old m.12 "Method of affixing the button": general requirement from old m.12.1; minimum blade diameter from old m.12.4; threaded diameter from old m.12.5; groove dimensions from old m.12.7; barrel portion from old m.12.6; fixing method from old m.12.2–3. "Security of the Tip Assembly" is a new provision.

This reorganization:

1. Moves pointe d'arrêt provisions to new m.10
2. Creates a dedicated blade-tip interface article
3. Draws interface content from old m.12
4. Adds a new security provision

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~~**Pointe d'arrêt**~~

**m.11. Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface**

**1. General Requirement** ~~1. The diameter of the pointe d'arrêt is between 5.5 mm and 7 mm; the diameter of the body of the button including its exterior insulation must not be more than 0.3 mm less than that of the pointe d'arrêt.~~

1. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of a threaded interface in accordance with the foil weapon.

2. Only fixing methods expressly permitted by this Book must be allowed.
3. The interface region is where the barrel is fixed to the blade.
4. The lighting stroke cannot exceed 1mm

**2. Minimum Blade Diameter** ~~2. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical; its front surface is flat and perpendicular to its axis. Its edge will either be rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm or have a chamfer of 0.5 mm at 45°.~~

Prior to threading, the blade must not have a diameter of less than 3.5 mm at any point within the interface region.

**3. Threaded Diameter — Blade** ~~3. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt, in order to break the contact and cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 500 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point. The weight of 500 g supplied by the Organising Committee may have a tolerance of ± 2 g.~~

The diameter of the threaded core (opposite to the widest part of the blade) at the edge of the blade must not be less than 2.7 mm (Threading — SI 3.5 × 0.60).

**4. Threaded Portion Length — Blade Groove** ~~4. The course or travel of the pointe d'arrêt required to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit, called the lighting stroke, may be infinitesimal: the total travel of the pointe d'arrêt must not be greater than 1 mm. The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm.~~

1. The width of the groove of the blade at the threaded portion must not exceed 0.5 mm.
2. The depth of the groove of the blade at the threaded portion must not exceed 0.6 mm.
3. Depth of the groove is measured on the diameter of the threaded core.

**5. Threaded Portion Length — Barrel** ~~5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button in at least two places equidistant from each other, or by any other method which has been approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

1. Only the forward half of this length must be threaded.
2. The remaining half must engage a smooth internal bore within the tip assembly.

**6. Fixing Method** ~~6. When not depressed the pointe d'arrêt is in contact with the earth circuit of the foil. When a hit is made, this contact must be broken.~~

1. Only metal-to-metal fixing must be permitted.
2. Soldering, brazing, or any heating process that may alter the temper or mechanical properties of the blade is prohibited.
3. Alternative fixing methods may be authorized after approval of the SEMI Commission.
4. The threaded interface must not loosen under normal competitive use.
5. Material wrapped around the surface of the bare blade is prohibited (see m.2 for general safety and circumvention rules).

**7. Security of the Tip Assembly**

1. The tip assembly must remain securely engaged with the threaded portion of the blade during normal competitive use.
2. If the tip assembly becomes loose, disengaged, or partially unscrewed, the foil must be deemed non-compliant and must not be used until properly repaired.
3. No external clips, locking devices, or additional components may be added outside the defined tip assembly in order to secure the tip.
4. Only components forming part of the approved tip assembly design must be permitted (see m.59–m.60).

---

**Proposal 54**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.12**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.12 “Method of affixing the button” (old m.12.1–m.12.8) describes button base threading, fixing methods, soldering prohibition, minimum blade diameter, thread core diameter, button length and threading specifications, groove dimensions, and SEMI verification authority. The restructured Article m.12 “Foil Insulation” covers insulation coverage and materials. Old m.12 button-affixing content is redistributed to new m.11 “Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface”: general threading (old m.12.1) to new m.11 “General Requirement”; fixing method (old m.12.2) and soldering (old m.12.3) to new m.11 “Fixing Method”; blade diameter (old m.12.4) to new m.11 “Minimum Blade Diameter” and new m.7 “Blade Tip”; thread diameter (old m.12.5) to new m.11 “Threaded Diameter”; button length (old m.12.6) to new m.10 “Barrel — Construction” and new m.11 “Threaded Portion Length”; groove (old m.12.7) to new m.11 “Threaded Portion Length — Blade Groove”; verification (old m.12.8) to Chapter 5 Weapons Control. New m.12 insulation content draws from old m.13 “The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle” (old m.13.1 insulation coverage; old m.13.2 flange dimension).

This reorganization:

1. Moves button-affixing provisions to new m.11
2. Creates a dedicated insulation article
3. Draws insulation content from old m.13
4. Redistributes old m.12.8 verification to Chapter 5

---

~~**Method of affixing the button**~~

**m.12. Foil Insulation**

**1. Insulation Coverage** ~~1. The base of the button must be screwed onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions.~~

1. The cylindrical body of the tip assembly and the blade must be fully covered with insulating material.
2. Insulating material must extend rearward from the edge of the barrel along the blade for a length of 15 cm ±1 cm.
3. The insulation must be continuous from the barrel onto the blade, with no uninsulated gap at the junction.

**2. Insulation Materials** ~~2. Normally, only fixing by metal-to-metal is allowed. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.~~

Insulation must consist of adhesive tape, gummed paper, Sellotape, varnish, or plastic material (see m.43).

~~3. All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade are forbidden.~~

~~4. The end of the blade before cutting the thread must not have a diameter at any point of less than 3.5 mm, and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.~~

~~5. The diameter of the core of the thread must not be less than 2.7 mm (thread SI 3.5 x 0.60). The threading must be very tight.~~

~~6. The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7–8mm entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length at the extremity of the blade be threaded. For the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 3.5 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.~~

~~7. At the point at which the wire passes into the button, the width of the groove must not exceed 0.5 mm, and its depth must not exceed 0.6 mm measured on the diameter of the core of the thread, in order to weaken as little as possible the section of the blade.~~

~~8. Only the members of the SEMI Committee of the FIE or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.~~

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**Proposal 55**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.13**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.13 “The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle” (old m.13.1–m.13.2) describes foil insulation coverage and flange diameter requirements. The restructured Article m.13 “Épée General Characteristics” replaces this with an épée-specific nature statement. Old m.13 insulation content is redistributed: insulation coverage (old m.13.1) to new

m.12 “Foil Insulation — Insulation Coverage”; flange dimension (old m.13.2) to new m.10 “Foil Tip Assembly — Flange Construction.”

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear épée-specific introduction article
2. Redistributes old foil insulation content to new m.12 and m.10
3. Begins the Épée Specific Requirements section (Part 3)

---

~~The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle~~ **Part 3: Épée Specific Requirements**

### m.13. Épée General Characteristics

**1. Nature of the Weapon** ~~1. The body of the button and the foil blade for a length of 15 cm +/- 1cm from the button must be entirely covered with insulating material (insulating tape, gummed paper, Sellotape, plastic material or varnish).~~

The épée is a thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of a spring-loaded tip connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

~~2. The flange of the sleeve which slides in the base of the point and within which is fixed the pointe d'arrêt must be of a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d'arrêt itself, to obviate an accidental contact being made with the conductive jacket when a hit is made.~~

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**Proposal 56**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.14**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.14 “Weight” (old m.14) contains only the épée total weight limit (770 g). The restructured Article m.14 “Épée Dimensions and Weight” consolidates all épée dimensional and weight limits. “Maximum Total Length” draws from old m.15 (110 cm); “Maximum Blade Length” from old m.16.3 (90 cm); “Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear” from old m.17.2 (95.5 cm); “Maximum Weight” expands old m.14 with component definitions and measurement procedures.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all épée dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.15, blade length from old m.16.3, guard rear length from old m.17.2
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

~~**Weight**~~

## m.14. Épée Dimensions and Weight

**1. Maximum Total Length** ~~The total weight of the épée ready for use is less than 770 g.~~

The total length of the épée, measured between plane A and plane E, must not exceed 110 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

**2. Maximum Blade Length**

The blade length, measured between plane A and plane B of a straight blade, must not exceed 90 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

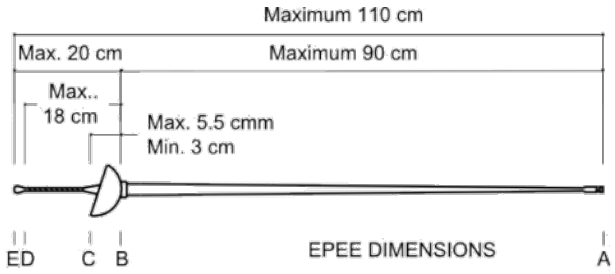



**Figure 7: Épée dimensions and planes**

**3. Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear**

The total length between planes A and C must never be greater than 95.5 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

**4. Maximum Weight**

1. For the purposes of Épée, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket assembly, tip assembly, and internal wiring.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the épée ready for use must be less than 770 g (see m.55–m.57).
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures.

**Proposal 57**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.15**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.15 “Length” (old m.15) contains only the épée maximum total length (110 cm). The restructured Article m.15 “Épée Blade” consolidates all blade provisions. “Cross Section” draws from old m.16.1 (triangular section); “Material” from old m.16.1 (steel/Annexe A); “Orientation” from old m.16.2 (groove uppermost); “Maximum Width” from old m.16.4 (24 mm); “Flexibility” from old m.16.5 (4.5–7 cm); “Curvature” from old m.16.2 (max 1 cm).

This reorganization:

1. Gathers all blade characteristics from old m.16 into a dedicated blade article
2. Moves total length to new m.14
3. Adds measurement verification references
4. References Weapons Control procedures

---

~~**Length**~~

## m.15. Épée Blade

**1. Cross Section** ~~The total maximum length of the épée is 110 cm (cf m.3).~~

The blade must be triangular in section without cutting edges.

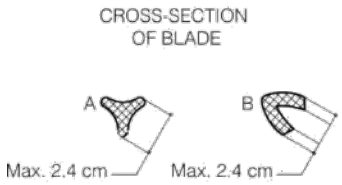



**Figure 8: Cross-section of épée blade**

**2. Material**

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Orientation**

1. The blade must be mounted with the widest face horizontal.
2. The groove must be positioned uppermost.

## 4. Maximum Width

The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is 24 mm.

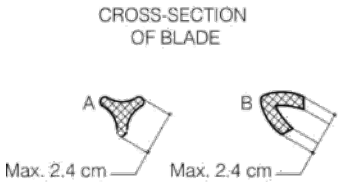



**Figure 9: Maximum width of a side of the épée blade**

## 5. Flexibility

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend between 4.5 cm and 7 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from Plane A.
   c. The bend of the blade is measured from Plane A between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 10).

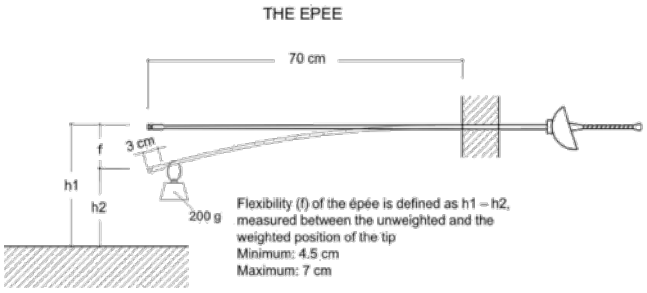



**Figure 10: Épée blade flexibility verification**

## 6. Curvature

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 1 cm.
2. The curvature must only be in the vertical plane.
3. The curvature must be near the center of the blade.
4. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.

b. The position of the curve is uppermost.

c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade.

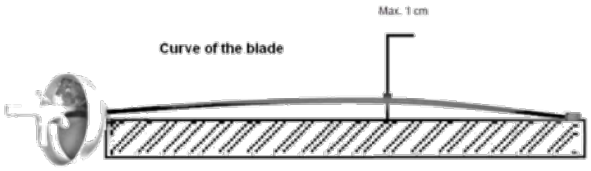



**Figure 11: Épée blade curvature**

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**Proposal 58**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.16**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.16 “The blade” (old m.16.1–m.16.5) describes the épée blade section, curvature, blade length, maximum width, and flexibility. The restructured Article m.16 “Épée Guard” covers guard depth, eccentric mounting, padding, and gauge compliance. Old m.16 blade content is redistributed: triangular section (old m.16.1) to new m.15 “Cross Section”; curvature (old m.16.2) to new m.15 “Curvature”; blade length (old m.16.3) to new m.14 “Maximum Blade Length”; max width (old m.16.4) to new m.15 “Maximum Width”; flexibility (old m.16.5) to new m.15 “Flexibility.” New m.16 guard content draws from old m.17 (guard gauge/depth/eccentricity) and old m.5 (padding).

This reorganization:

1. Moves all blade provisions from old m.16 to new m.15
2. Creates a dedicated épée guard article
3. Draws guard content from old m.17 and old m.5
4. Adds padding provision from old m.5

---

~~The blade~~

**m.16. Épée Guard**

**1. Guard Depth** ~~1. The blade, which is triangular in section without cutting edges, is made of steel and must comply with the safety standards described in Annexe A to the Rules.~~

The depth of the guard (the distance between planes B and C) must be between 3 cm and 5.5 cm (see Figure 7).

**2. Eccentric Mounting Option** ~~2. It should be as straight as possible and mounted with the groove uppermost. Any curve of the blade must be uniform and the maximum bend must in any case be less than 1 cm; it is only permitted in the vertical plane and must be near the centre of the blade. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i) the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii) the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 9).~~

The distance between the center of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the guard must not exceed 3.5 cm.

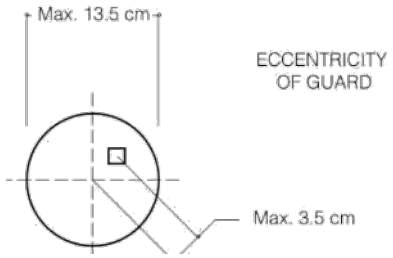



**Figure 12: Épée guard eccentricity limits**

**3. Padding** ~~3. The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm. (cf. m.3).~~

1. The interior must contain padding of cushioning material.
2. Padding must not exceed 2 cm in thickness.

**4. Gauge Compliance** ~~4. The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is 24 mm.~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The guard must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm and a length of 15 cm.
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the cylinder.

~~5. The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of 4.5 cm minimum and 7 cm maximum measured in the following way. a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button. b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from the extremity of the button. c. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 9).~~

**Proposal 59**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.17**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.17 “The guard (cf. m.5)” (old m.17.1–m.17.3) describes the épée guard gauge (13.5 cm diameter), total length to guard rear (95.5 cm), and eccentric mounting (3.5 cm offset). The restructured Article m.17 “Épée Socket Assembly” covers the socket block and wire passage. Old m.17 guard content is redistributed: gauge (old m.17.1) to new m.16 “Gauge Compliance”; guard depth (old m.17.1) to new m.16 “Guard Depth”; total length to guard rear (old m.17.2) to new m.14 “Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear”; eccentric mounting (old m.17.3) to new m.16 “Eccentric Mounting Option.” New m.17 socket content draws from old m.18.3 (socket block with separate holes).

This reorganization:

1. Moves guard gauge/depth/eccentricity to new m.16
2. Moves total-to-guard-rear length to new m.14
3. Creates a dedicated socket assembly article
4. Draws socket content from old m.18

---

~~**The guard (cf. m.5)**~~

**m.17. Épée Socket Assembly**

**1. Socket Assembly** ~~1. The guard, which must have a circular edge, must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm and a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel to the axis of the cylinder. The depth of the guard (the distance between lines B and C) must be between 3 cm and 5.5 cm (cf. m.3).~~

1. The socket assembly must be 3 separate sockets held in position by a block.
2. The socket must have two separate holes in the block.

~~2. The total length between lines A and C must never be greater than 95.5 cm (cf. m.3).~~

~~3. Eccentric mounting is allowed provided the distance between the centre of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the guard does not exceed 3.5 cm.~~

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**Proposal 60**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.18**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.18 “Electric wires” (old m.18.1–m.18.3) describes the épée’s two electric wires, handle notch for wire passage, and socket block requirements. The restructured Article m.18 “Épée Handle” covers the handle covering restriction for orthopaedic handles. Old m.18 electric wire content is redistributed: two wires in groove (old m.18.1) to new m.19 “Electrical Wire”; handle notch (old m.18.2) to new m.3 handle provisions; socket block (old m.18.3) to new m.17 “Épée Socket Assembly.” New m.18 handle content draws from old m.4.3 (épée orthopaedic handle restriction).

This reorganization:

1. Moves electric wire provisions to new m.19
2. Moves socket block to new m.17
3. Creates a dedicated handle article
4. Draws handle restriction from old m.4.3

---

~~**Electric wires**~~

**m.18. Épée Handle**

**1. Épée Handle** ~~1. The épée has two electric wires, glued in a groove in the blade, which connect the button to two of the three sockets situated inside the guard and which form the active circuit of the épée. The earth circuit of the épée is connected to the third socket.~~

Orthopedic handles, whether metal or not, may not be covered with leather or any material which could hide wires or switches.

~~2. The handle must have, at the end which is in contact with the guard, a notch of 2 mm minimum depth, which allows the electric wires and their insulating sheaths to pass towards the sockets inside the guard without being squashed. (cf m.31.7)~~

~~3. The socket inside the epee guard must have two separate holes in the block, so that the two wires can be passed through the block separately and then connected to the terminals.~~

---

**Proposal 61**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.19**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.19 “Pointe d’arrêt and button” (old m.19.1–m.19.5) describes the épée pointe d’arrêt specifications, pressure, test weight, travel requirements, and retention. The restructured Article m.19 “Épée Electrical System” covers the electrical wire, wire-socket assembly, resistance, and circuit function. Old m.19 pointe d’arrêt content is redistributed to new m.20 “Épée Tip Assembly” (dimensions from old m.19.1; pressure from old m.19.2; travel from old m.19.4; mounting from old m.19.5). New m.19 electrical content draws from old m.18 (two wires and socket connections), old m.5.4 (2-ohm resistance limit), and new provisions for circuit function.

This reorganization:

1. Moves pointe d’arrêt provisions to new m.20
2. Creates a dedicated electrical system article
3. Draws wire/socket content from old m.18
4. Consolidates resistance and circuit provisions

---

~~**Pointe d’arrêt and button**~~

## m.19. Épée Electrical System

**1. Electrical Wire** ~~1. The electric button is completed by a pointe d’arrêt which must conform to the following specifications. It must be easy to apply the pointe d’arrêt of the opponent’s weapon to the earth circuit connected to the blade. a. The pointe d’arrêt is cylindrical. Its front surface is flat and perpendicular to its axis. Its edge will either be rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm or have a chamfer of 0.5 mm at 45°. b. The diameter of the crown of the pointe d’arrêt is 8 mm with a tolerance of ± 0.05 mm. The diameter of the base must not be less than 7.7 mm. c. The flange (collar) which guides the pointe d’arrêt as well as the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown (it is recommended that it be reduced in diameter by 0.3–0.5 mm in relation to the crown) so that it shall not be possible to cause a hit to be registered merely by sliding the depressed pointe d’arrêt against the convex surface of the guard (cf. t.67.a).~~

1. The wires must permanently connect the pointe d’arrêt to the socket.
2. The épée must have two separate, individually insulated electrical wires.
3. Wires must be securely affixed by glue within the groove of the blade along the entire length of the blade.

**2. Wire-Socket Assembly** ~~2. The pressure required on the pointe d’arrêt in order to complete the circuit in the épée, and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 750 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point.~~

1. Each wire connects to one socket.
2. The earth circuit of the épée must be connected to the third socket.
3. Wires must have insulated sheaths that pass from the guard to the socket assembly.
4. In no case may uninsulated wires extend beyond the plug connections.
5. Each wire must be passed through the hole in the block separately and then connected to the socket terminals.

**3. Electrical Resistance** ~~3. The weight used to check competitors' épées on the piste consists of a metal cylinder drilled part of the way along its axis with a hole parallel to its sides; this hole, into which is inserted the end of the blade, must have an insulating lining to prevent its metallic parts coming into contact with the earthed mass of the épée which might then give a false result to the test. This weight of 750 g may have a tolerance of ± 3 g, i.e. 747–753 g.~~

1. The total electrical resistance of the épée must not exceed 2 ohms.
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures using an Ohm meter.

**4. Circuit Function** ~~4. a) The course or travel of the pointe d'arrêt required to complete the circuit in the épée and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, called the lighting stroke, must be greater than 1 mm. The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must be less than 0.5 mm. (This requirement is just as essential as that for the lighting stroke). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm. b. The total course or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm (cf. t.68.3). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm. c. Adjusting the lighting stroke by means of screws or any other external fixing device, once the point has been assembled on the weapon, is forbidden (cf t.44.3). d. An external screw or similar fixing device is only allowed if it is actually part of the assembling of the point. e. The head of the screw or fixing device must never project beyond the flat top surface of the point and its housing in the flat surface may not exceed 2 mm in diameter.~~

1. When the tip assembly is not depressed, the active circuit must be open.
2. When the tip assembly is depressed in accordance with this Book, the active circuit must be completed.

~~5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button at at least two points equally spaced, or by any other system approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

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**Proposal 62**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.20**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.20 "Method of affixing the button" (old m.20.1–m.20.6) describes the épée button base threading, fixing method, blade diameter, thread specifications, groove requirements, and SEMI verification authority. The restructured Article m.20 "Épée Tip Assembly" is a comprehensive article covering general construction, components, materials, dimensions, edge treatment, mounting, flange, barrel base, spring, travel, pressure, adjustment prohibition, and circuit

function. Content draws from old m.19 (pointe d'arrêt dimensions from old m.19.1, pressure from old m.19.2, travel from old m.19.4, mounting from old m.19.5) and adds new provisions for components, materials, spring, and barrel construction.

This reorganization:

1. Moves button-affixing provisions to new m.21
2. Creates a comprehensive épée tip assembly article
3. Draws pointe d'arrêt provisions from old m.19
4. Adds new component, material, and construction provisions

---

~~**Method of affixing the button**~~

**m.20. Épée Tip Assembly** ~~If the base of the button is not made in one piece with the blade, or if it does not permit the flattened inset piece at the tip of the blade to be retained, the button must be screwed onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions.~~

**1. General Construction** ~~1. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

It must be easy to apply the pointe d'arrêt of the opponent's weapon to the earth circuit.

**2. Tip Assembly Components** ~~2. The end of the blade, before cutting the thread, must not have a diameter at any point which is less than 4 mm and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.~~

A tip assembly must consist of:

1. An insulated pointe d'arrêt.
2. A flange that is smaller in diameter to the pointe d'arrêt.
3. Spring(s).
4. A barrel that is a separate hollow cylindrical body.

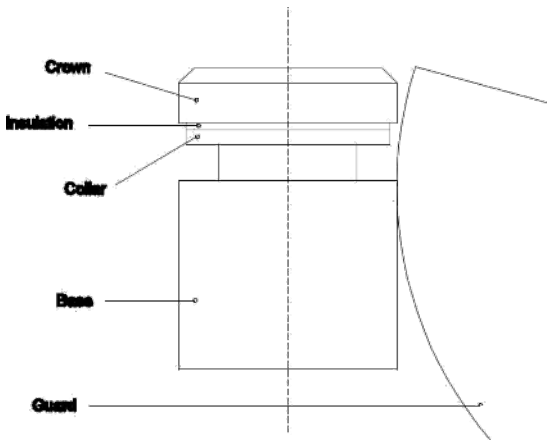



**Figure 13: Notional drawing of épée tip assembly**

**3. Tip Assembly Material** ~~3. a) The diameter of the core of thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm (thread SI 4.0 x 0.70). b) The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7–8 mm entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length, at the extremity of the blade, be threaded. For the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 4.0 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.~~

1. The components of the tip assembly must be manufactured from materials that:
   a. Provide sufficient mechanical durability under normal competitive use;
   b. Maintain consistent electrical performance as required by this Book; and
   c. Resist corrosion or degradation that could affect safety or electrical function.
2. Material specifications and approved alloys must be defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**4. Pointe d'arrêt — Dimensions and Shape** ~~4. The groove necessary to enable the wires to enter the button must be cut in such a way that it weakens as little as possible the section of the blade.~~

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical.
2. The front surface of the pointe d'arrêt is flat and perpendicular to its axis.
3. The diameter of the crown of the pointe d'arrêt must be 8 mm ±0.05 mm.

**5. Pointe d'arrêt — Edge Treatment** ~~5. Only the members of the SEMI Committee of the FIE or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.~~

The edge of the pointe d'arrêt must be either:

1. Rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm; or
2. Chamfered at 45° with a width of 0.5 mm.

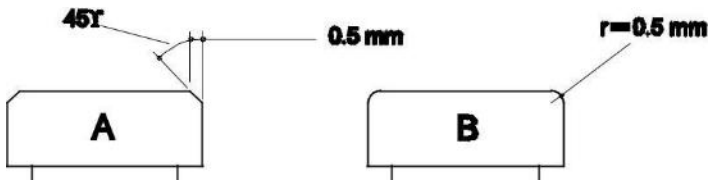



**Figure 14: Examples of épée pointe d'arrêt edge treatment**

**6. Pointe d'arrêt — Mounting**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained within the button in at least two places equidistant from each other.
2. Other methods of mounting must be approved by the SEMI Commission.

## 7. Flange Construction

1. The flange guides the pointe d'arrêt.
2. The flange and the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown.
3. The flange must be recessed in diameter between 0.3–0.5 mm in relation to the crown.
4. The flange must not allow a hit to be registered by sliding the depressed pointe d'arrêt against the convex surface of the guard.

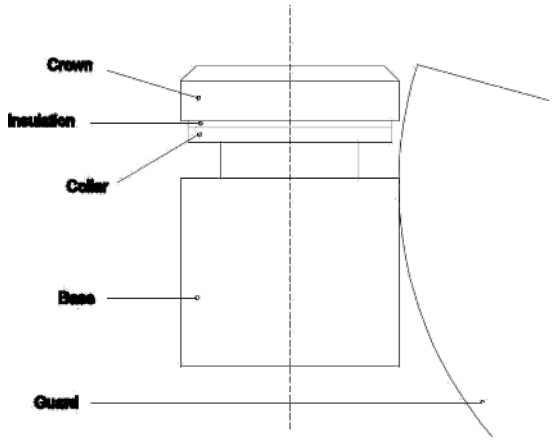



**Figure 15: Example of convex guard and épée tip hit**

## 8. Barrel Base — Dimensions

The diameter of the base (barrel) must not be less than 7.7 mm.

## 9. Spring — Construction

1. Springs must be manufactured from materials capable of maintaining their elastic properties under repeated compression during normal competitive use.
2. The spring must be capable of lifting a weight of 750 g ±2 g.

## 10. Tip Assembly — Travel

1. The travel of the pointe d'arrêt before a hit is registered must be greater than 1 mm.
2. The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must be less than 0.5 mm.
3. The total course or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm.
4. Travel must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures and the checking apparatus requirements in m.61 in the following way:
   a. The gauge must have a tolerance of a maximum of ± 0.05 mm.

## 11. Tip Assembly — Pressure

1. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt must be more than 750 to complete the circuit.

2. Pressure must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. A weight of 750 g ±3 grams must be lifted by the spring of the point d'arrêt.

**12. Tip Assembly — Adjustment Prohibition**

1. Adjusting the tip assembly by means of screws or any other external fixing device, once the point has been assembled on the weapon, is forbidden.
2. External screws or similar fixings are permitted only when they are essential for the tip assembly.
3. The head of the screw or fixing device must never project beyond the flat top surface of the point.
4. The head of the screw or fixing device must not exceed 2 mm in diameter beyond the external flat surface of the barrel.

**13. Tip Assembly — Circuit Function**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must maintain an open circuit when not depressed.
2. The circuit must be completed when the pointe d'arrêt is depressed in accordance with this Book.

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**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.21**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.21 "Length" (old m.21) contains the sabre maximum total length (105 cm). The restructured Article m.21 "Épée Blade-Tip Assembly Interface" covers the threaded interface between épée blade and tip assembly. The old m.21 sabre length moves to new m.23 "Sabre Dimensions and Weight." New m.21 interface content draws from old m.20 "Method of affixing the button": general requirement from old m.20.1; fixing method from old m.20.2; blade diameter from old m.20.3; thread diameter from old m.20.4a; blade tip length from old m.20.4b; groove from old m.20.5. "Prohibited Methods" draws from old m.20 soldering prohibition (general principle).

This reorganization:

1. Moves sabre length to new m.23
2. Creates a dedicated épée blade-tip interface article
3. Draws interface content from old m.20
4. Adds groove treatment and prohibited methods provisions

---

~~**Length**~~

## m.21. Épée Blade-Tip Assembly Interface ~~The total maximum length of the sabre is 105 cm (cf m.3).~~

### 1. General Requirement

1. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade.
2. Only fixing methods expressly permitted by this Book must be allowed.
3. The interface region is where the button is fixed to the blade.

### 2. Interface Region — Conditions

The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of either:

a. The tip assembly is made in one piece with the blade; OR

b. The blade is securely retained by the tip assembly; OR

c. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of a threaded interface in accordance with the épée weapon.

### 3. Fixing Method

1. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed.
2. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorized after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.

### 4. Minimum Blade Diameter

1. Prior to threading, the blade must not have a diameter of less than 4 mm at any point within the interface region.
2. It is forbidden to have anything wrapped around the blade at the interface region.

### 5. Threaded Core Diameter

The diameter of the core of thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm (Threading SI 4.0 x 0.70).

### 6. Threaded Blade Tip Length

1. The part of the blade on which the tip assembly is fixed must be of a length of 7–8 mm.
2. The tip assembly must fully cover the threaded length of the blade tip.

### 7. Internally Threaded Barrel Length

1. It is recommended that only the half of the internal barrel length, at the extremity of the blade, be threaded.

2. For the other half the internal barrel will have a smooth surface of 4 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.

**8. Groove Treatment**

The groove at the blade tip must cut in such a way that it weakens as little as possible the section of the blade.

**9. Prohibited Methods**

All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade and the blade tip are forbidden.

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**Proposal 64**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.22**

**Motivation:**. The current Article m.22 “Weight” (old m.22) contains only the sabre total weight limit (500 g). The restructured Article m.22 “Sabre General Characteristics” replaces this with a sabre-specific nature statement. Old m.21 length content moves to new m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight — Maximum Total Length.”

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear sabre-specific introduction article
2. Moves the total length provision to the dedicated dimensions article (new m.23)
3. Begins the Sabre Specific Requirements section (Part 4)

---

~~**Weight**~~ **Part 4: Sabre Specific Requirements**

**m.22. Sabre General Characteristics** ~~The total maximum length of the sabre is 105 cm (cf m.3).~~

**1. Nature of the Weapon**

The sabre is a cutting and thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of contact with the edge, flat, or point of the blade upon the valid target connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

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**Proposal 65**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.23**

**Motivation:**. The current Article m.23 “The blade” (old m.23.1–m.23.4) describes the sabre blade’s steel composition, rectangular section, maximum length (88 cm), button construction, curvature limits, and flexibility requirements. The restructured Article m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight” consolidates all sabre dimensional and weight limits into one article. “Maximum Total Length” draws from old m.21 (105 cm); “Maximum Blade Length” from old m.23.1 (88 cm); “Maximum Handle Length” from old m.4.1 (17 cm for sabre); “Maximum Weight” expands old m.22 with component definitions and measurement procedures.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all sabre dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.21, blade length from old m.23.1, handle length from old m.4.1
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

---

~~**The blade (see Figure 13)**~~

**m.23. Sabre Dimensions and Weight**

**1. Maximum Total Length** ~~1. The blade, which must be of steel, is approximately rectangular in section. The maximum length of the blade is 88 cm. The minimum width of the blade, which must be at the button, is 4 mm; its minimum thickness, also measured immediately below the button, must be at least 1.2 mm.~~

The total length of the sabre, measured between Plane A and Plane E of a straight blade, must not exceed 105 cm (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

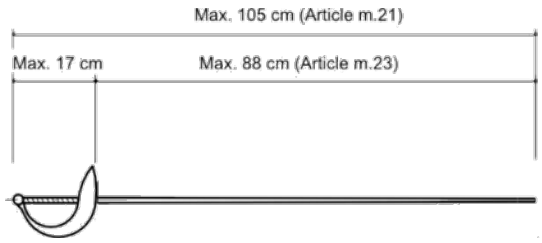



**Figure 16: Dimensions of the sabre**

**2. Maximum Blade Length** ~~2. The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself or be fashioned in one piece to form a button which, viewed end on, must have a square or~~

~~rectangular section of 4 mm minimum and 6 mm maximum. The maximum dimension must be not more than 3 mm from the end of the blade.~~

The blade length, measured between Plane A and Plane B, must not exceed 88 cm (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

**3. Maximum Handle Length** ~~3. If the blade has a curve, it must be a distinct curve which must be continuous, and the deflection must be less than 4 cm. Blades with sharply bent extremities or which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i. the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii. the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 13).~~

The maximum length of the handle is 17 cm, measured between Plane B and Plane E (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

**4. Maximum Weight** ~~4. The sabre blade must have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of minimum 4 cm and maximum 7 cm measured in the following way. a) The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the tip of the blade. b) A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is hung 1 cm from the tip. c) The curve is measured at the tip of the blade between the weighted and unweighted positions (see Figures 12 and 13).~~

1. For the purposes of sabre, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket, and insulation.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the sabre must be less than 500 g (see m.55–m.57).
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures.

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**Proposal 66**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.24**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.24 “The guard” (old m.24.1–m.24.7) describes the sabre guard’s shape, gauge compliance, socket, electrical circuit, interior and exterior insulation, and handle/pommel insulation. The restructured Article m.24 “Sabre Blade” breaks these into dedicated sub-sections. “Cross Section” draws from old m.23.1 (rectangular section); “Material” is new (references Materials Homologation Handbook); “Surface Condition” is new (hazardous surface prohibition); “Blade Width” draws from old m.23.1 (4 mm minimum width) and old m.23.2 (tip dimensions); “Blade Profile, Thickness and Tip Geometry” consolidates old m.23.1 (thickness) and old m.23.2 (button/tip construction); “Flexibility” draws from old m.23.4; “Curvature” draws from old m.23.3.

This reorganization:

1. Breaks the single blade article into dedicated sub-sections for each characteristic
2. Adds explicit material and surface condition requirements
3. Separates curvature from flexibility into distinct sub-sections
4. References Weapons Control procedures for verification

---

~~**The guard (cf. m.5)**~~

**m.24. Sabre Blade**

**1. Cross Section** ~~1. The guard must be full in shape, made in one piece and externally smooth. It must have a convex form which is continuous, without rim or holes.~~

The blade must be approximately rectangular in cross-section.

**2. Material** ~~2. It must be able to pass through a rectangular gauge measuring 15 cm by 14 cm in section, with a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel with the longitudinal axis of the gauge.~~

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Surface Condition** ~~3. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the bodywire is plugged, whatever system is used.~~

The blade must not be sharpened, ground, heated, or otherwise treated in a manner that creates a hazardous surface between the guard and the tip.

**4. Blade Width** ~~4. The two sockets of the bodywire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard, making a closed electrical circuit through the bodywire, the spool and the cable connecting the spool to the scoring apparatus.~~

The minimum width of the blade, measured at the tip, must be 4 mm (see Figure 17).

The widest section of the tip must be no more than 3 mm from Plane A.

The width of the blade at Plane A of the tip must be a minimum of 4 mm and a maximum of 6 mm.

The thickness of the blade at the base of the tip must be at least 1.2 mm.

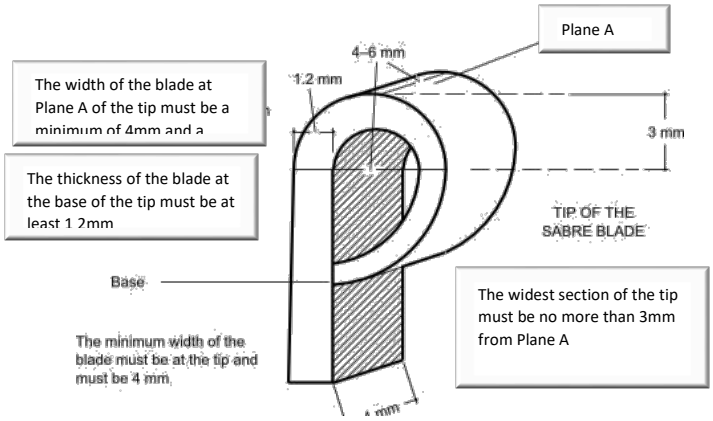



**Figure 17: Blade with dimensions**

**5. Blade Profile, Thickness and Tip Geometry** ~~5. The interior of the guard must be completely insulated by means of insulating paint or a pad.~~

1. The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself or fashioned in one piece to form the sabre tip.
2. The tip, when viewed end-on, must have a square or rectangular section.
3. The tip section must be a minimum of 4 mm to a maximum of 6 mm.
4. The maximum dimension must be located not more than 3 mm from the end of the blade (Plane A).
5. The minimum thickness of the blade, measured immediately below the tip, must be at least 1.2 mm.

**6. Flexibility** ~~6. The exterior of the guard must be insulated for 7–8 cm from the pommel.~~

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend of minimum 4 cm and maximum 7 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the tip of the blade.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance ±1 g) is suspended 1 cm from the tip.

c. The bend is measured at the tip of the blade between the weighted and unweighted positions (see Figure 18).

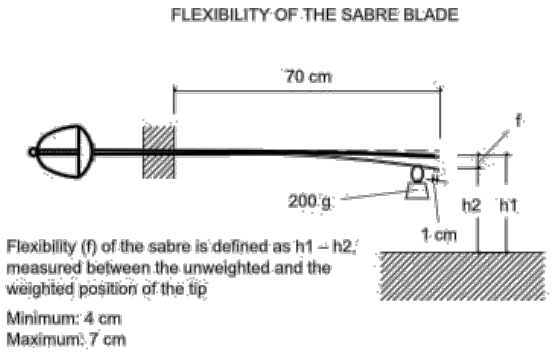



**Figure 18: Flexibility of the sabre blade**

**7. Curvature** ~~7. The handle and the pommel must be completely insulated.~~

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 4 cm.
2. The curvature of the blade must be continuous.
3. The curve must be in the vertical plane only.
4. The curve must be near the center of the blade.
5. Blades with sharply bent extremities are forbidden.
6. Blades which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden.
7. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
   b. The position of the curve is uppermost.
   c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade (see Figure 19).

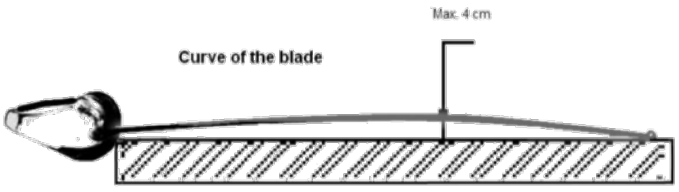



**Figure 19: Sabre blade curvature**

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**Proposal 67**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.25**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.25 refers to a chapter dedicated to equipment and clothing. The restructured Article m.25 “Sabre Guard and Guard Assembly” breaks these into ten dedicated sub-sections. “Guard Assembly” is new (defines assembly components); “Guard Geometry and Construction” draws from old m.24.1; “External Guard Surface Requirements” draws from old m.24.1 (smooth exterior); “Guard Mounting” is new; “Gauge Compliance” draws from old m.24.2; “Guard Interior Insulation” draws from old m.24.5; “Guard Exterior Insulation” draws from old m.24.6; “Socket Assembly” draws from old m.24.3; “Handle” and “Pommel” draw from old m.24.7 (split into separate sub-sections).

This reorganization:

1. Breaks the single guard article into dedicated sub-sections for each requirement
2. Adds explicit guard assembly definition and guard mounting requirements
3. Separates handle and pommel insulation into distinct sub-sections
4. References Weapons Control procedures for gauge verification

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~~**Chapter 2. Equipment and Clothing**~~

~~**General Conditions**~~

**m.25. Sabre Guard and Guard Assembly** **1.** ~~1. Protection: The equipment and clothing must provide the competitor with the maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.~~

**1. Guard Assembly**

A guard assembly must consist of:

a. The guard

b. A socket assembly

c. A handle

d. A pommel

**2. Guard Geometry and Construction** ~~2. Safety: Fencers’ clothing must be clean and in good condition and with FIE Homologation label. It must not be possible for the opponent to be obstructed or injured by the equipment, nor for it to have either buckles or openings in which the opponent’s point may be caught up — except accidentally — and thus held or deflected. The jacket and its collar must be completely buttoned or done up~~

1. The guard must be full in shape.
2. The guard must be made in one piece.
3. The guard must have a continuous convex form.

4. The guard must not have a rim.
5. The guard must not have holes.

**3. External Guard Surface Requirements** ~~3. Characteristics of the clothing: a) The national uniform includes the socks, the breeches and the jacket. b) The material from which the equipment is made must not have a surface which is smooth enough to cause the pointe d'arrêt, the button or the opponent's hit to glance off (cf. m.30). c) Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches and trousers must be made entirely in cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons. Very particular attention must be paid to the way the seams under the armpits, if there are any, are made. The fastenings of the uniform, jacket and breeches, (typically zips), must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the fastenings in the direction of the fencer's armed arm (right handed from right to left – left handed from left to right). An under-garment consisting of a protective under-plastron covering the vital upper areas of the body (following the design given in Annexe A to these Rules, 'Safety norms for manufacturers') resistant to 800 Newtons is also obligatory. d) Fencers' clothing may be of different colours, apart from black. e) There shall be only one national uniform per country with the exception that the manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different. f) Logos (national strips) worn on the national clothing must be approved by the FIE Executive Committee; they are then published on the FIE website and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions. g) For all official FIE competitions, the wearing of national strips (logos) is compulsory on both legs, optional on the arm(s) (cf. t.74.2), and the logos must be identical. The logos must be identical for all fencers of the same federation. h) The family name of the fencer must be displayed on the back of the jacket, with the abbreviation of the national federation below it, at the level of the shoulder blades. They must be printed directly onto the jacket or onto a cloth entirely sewn onto the jacket. The letters must be in dark blue, in Roman capitals, between 8 cm and 10 cm high, and each stroke must be a maximum of 1.5 cm wide. A World Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in red for the following season. An Olympic Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in gold until the end of the next Olympic Games.~~

The guard must be externally smooth.

**4. Guard Mounting** ~~4. Jacket a) At all weapons, for men and ladies, the lower edge of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm when the fencer is in the on-guard position (cf. m.28, m.34). b) The jacket must include a lining making a double thickness of material for the sleeve down to the elbow of the sword arm and covering the flank up to the region of the armpit. At épée the fencer is required to wear a regulation jacket, which covers the whole of the surface of the trunk. c) At all weapons, the use of a breast/chest protector (made of metal or some rigid material) is compulsory for women and optional for men. At foil, this breast/chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron. At foil, the protector will have the following characteristics: The entire outside of the chest protector (the side facing the opponent) must be covered with a soft material such as E.V.A. (Ethylene-vinyl acetate) of four mm thickness and density of 22kg/m3. (The material can be attached to the current plastic models or incorporated into the manufacture of new chest protectors). The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge.~~

1. The guard must be mounted and fixed between the blade and the handle.
2. The convex face of the guard is toward Plane A (the tip).

**5. Gauge Compliance** ~~5. Breeches and socks a) The breeches must be fastened below the knees. b) With breeches, the fencer must wear socks which cover the legs right up to the breeches. These socks must be held up in such a way that they cannot fall down. c) The fencer is permitted to wear socks with a 10cm turn-over showing the colours of his national team.~~

~~d) Both socks worn by the fencer must be matching – the same design and colour.~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The sabre guard must pass through a rectangular gauge of 15 cm width by 14 cm length by a depth of 15 cm.
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the gauge.

**6. Guard Interior Insulation** ~~6. Glove At all weapons, the gauntlet of the glove must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor's sword arm to prevent the opponent's blade entering the sleeve of the jacket. Under no circumstances should there be any hole in the hand of the glove, even to allow the passage of the body wire. The closure of the glove should be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb~~.

1. The interior of the guard must be completely insulated.
2. Insulation must be by means of insulating paint or a pad.
3. The insulating material must prevent electrical contact between the guard body and internal components other than the designated socket connections.

**7. Guard Exterior Insulation** ~~7. Mask~~

~~a) The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm and from wires with a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter. The mask must include two different safety systems at the rear. b) Masks, at all weapons, must be made in accordance with the safety standards described in Annexe A to these Rules and must carry the quality label specified in those standards. c) The entire mesh of the mask must be able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument, the angle of the surface of the cone being at 4° to the axis and at a pressure of 12 kg. d) The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons. e) The mask must contain two different safety systems at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the straps of the systems firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask. These straps must meet the following requirements approved by the SEMI Commission and any retro-fitting to existing masks must be carried out by the original manufacturer.~~

~~Mask with metallic tongue~~

~~• The central band (strap) should not be less than 45 mm wide.~~

~~• The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region that the position of the strap on the head ensures that the mask cannot slide off.~~

~~• The band must be in solid material : when stretched the material should not sustain permanent plastic deformation and should quickly return to its original shape and size~~

~~• The fastening system must be doubled: it must be closed with a double security system (this means that the Velcro™ has to be attached at least twice).~~

~~• The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm~~

~~• The tags to which the strap is attached by Velcro must be secured to each side of the mask with the same breaking strain.~~

~~Mask without metallic tongue~~

~~• The position of the main strap must be low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off; the correct distance should be decided by the manufacturer (typically 25/30 mm).~~

~~• The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.~~

~~• The use of a magnetic strap, already existing, remains mandatory.~~

~~Please refer to the examples in the drawings below:~~

~~These images are only provided for information. When in doubt, the wording of the relevant text prevails.~~

1. The exterior of the guard must be insulated for a distance of 7–8 cm measured from Plane E (pommel).
2. This insulation must cover the portion of the guard nearest to the handle.

**8. Socket Assembly**

The socket assembly must be positioned between the guard and the handle (see m.39 for body wire requirements and m.45).

**9. Handle**

The handle must be completely insulated.

**10. Pommel**

The pommel must be completely insulated.

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**Proposal 68**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.26**

**Motivation:** There is no single old article corresponding to the new Article m.26 “Sabre Electrical System.” Electrical provisions were previously scattered across old m.24.3 (socket inside guard) and old m.24.4 (bodywire plug direct contact and electrical circuit). The restructured Article m.26

consolidates all sabre-specific electrical requirements into a dedicated article covering circuit function, socket assembly fixation, and electrical resistance.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated sabre electrical system article
2. Consolidates electrical provisions previously scattered in old m.24
3. Adds explicit electrical resistance limit (1 ohm) with verification procedure
4. References m.45 for sabre scoring apparatus requirements

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Glove (cf. m.25)**~~

**m.26. Sabre Electrical System** ~~The glove may be slightly padded.~~

**1. Circuit Function**

The socket assembly inclusive of the body wire plugs make a closed electrical circuit through the wires to the scoring apparatus.

**2. Socket Assembly — Fixation**

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket assembly.
2. The socket assembly must contain two sockets.
3. The two sockets and the body wire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard during fencing activity.
4. The socket must not include any part which allows unintended electrical contact to be made between the plug sockets.

**3. Electrical Resistance**

1. The maximum electrical resistance allowed must not exceed 1 ohm (see m.45).
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures using an Ohm meter.

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**Proposal 69**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.27**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.27 “Mask” (old m.27, foil-specific) describes the foil mask mesh, bib conductivity, and means of connection requirements. The restructured Article m.27 “Equipment and Clothing General Requirements” replaces the foil-specific mask article with a comprehensive general requirements article for all equipment and clothing. The foil mask provisions from old m.27 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Foil). The restructured m.27 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 “General conditions” and breaks these into eight dedicated sub-sections covering Protection Standards, Safety Requirements, Material and Color Requirements, Homologation and Quality Labels, National Identification and Uniform Standards, National Logos, Name and Federation Display, and Effect of Marking on Function.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific mask article with a comprehensive general requirements article
2. Moves foil mask mesh, bib, and connection requirements to m.28 (Mask Requirements)
3. Draws general equipment and clothing provisions from old m.25 into the new Chapter 3 structure
4. Adds explicit homologation, national identification, and marking requirements as standalone sub-sections
5. Opens the new Chapter 3: Equipment and Clothing structure

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Mask (cf. m.25)**~~

## Chapter 3: Equipment and Clothing

### Part 1: General Provisions

Refers to parts, requirements, and definitions related to all equipment and clothing.

**m.27. Equipment and Clothing General Requirements 1.** ~~1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin. It must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.~~

**1. Protection Standards**

1. Equipment and clothing must provide the competitor with maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.
2. All protective equipment must meet FIE safety standards and, where required, homologation requirements (see Chapter 6, m.66-m.69).
3. The numerical resistance values and corresponding test methods are those defined in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook; compliance with those standards is mandatory for all equipment used in FIE competitions.

**2. Safety Requirements** ~~2. The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm below the chin, must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.~~

1. Fencers' clothing must be clean and in good condition.

2. Clothing and equipment must be maintained in a condition that does not compromise their protective function, structural integrity, or safety performance
3. All clothing and equipment covered by this Chapter must be worn and fastened in accordance with their approved design and any applicable FIE safety standard, so that full protective coverage is maintained during fencing.
4. All closures, including zips, buttons, hooks, straps, elastic, and hook-and-loop (Velcro) fasteners, must be fully closed or secured on the field of play and throughout each bout; a fencer must not begin or continue a bout if any required fastening is open, partially open, or otherwise not correctly secured.
5. Equipment must not include buckles or openings in which the opponent's point may be caught up — except accidentally — and thus held or deflected.
6. Equipment must not obstruct or injure the opponent beyond what results from normal, valid fencing actions (see m.2).

**3. Material Requirements and Color Requirements** ~~3. Means of connection: the electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed. The crocodile clips, the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the ends of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between the two crocodile clips) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches, and trousers must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material from which equipment is made must not have a surface smooth enough to cause the pointe d'arrêt, the tip, or the opponent's hit to glance off.
3. Seams in high-stress or vital areas, including under the arms and at the armpits, must maintain the same minimum perforation resistance as the surrounding material and must not create structural weaknesses or openings (m.69).
4. The fastenings of the uniform, jacket, and breeches (typically zips) must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the fastenings in the direction of the fencer's armed arm:
    a. Right-handed fencers: from right to left
    b. Left-handed fencers: from left to right
5. Fencers' clothing may be of different colors, apart from black.

**4. Homologation and Quality Labels**

1. All protective equipment must conform to the safety standards described in the relevant FIE safety documents and Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Equipment requiring homologation must display a valid homologation mark recognized under the applicable FIE safety standards and must be used only while that homologation remains valid.
3. Only equipment bearing valid homologation marks may be used in FIE competitions.

4. Use and validity of homologation marks are further governed by m.67-m.73

## 5. National Identification and Uniform Standards

1. For the purposes of these Rules, the national uniform consists of the jacket, breeches, and socks worn in official FIE competitions.
2. There must be only one national uniform design per country, with the exception that manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different.
3. National identification is fulfilled by the compulsory, FIE-accepted national leg logo displayed on both legs; these markings must appear on the breeches and, where applicable, on any visible sock turnover.
4. Each federation may designate only one national leg-logo design for use in official FIE competitions; that design must be identical for all fencers of the same federation in the same competition, subject only to differences in manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos.
5. Compliance with the national uniform standards may be checked at Weapons Control (see m.55-m.56)

## 6. National Logos

1. Logos worn on national clothing must be approved by the FIE Executive Committee for the federation concerned.
2. Approved national logo designs are published through official FIE channels and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions (see m.69).
3. For all official FIE competitions:

a. The wearing of national logos is compulsory on both legs.

b. National logos are optional on the arm(s).

## 7. Name and Federation Display

1. The family name of the fencer must be displayed on the back of the jacket, with the abbreviation of the national federation below it, at the level of the shoulder blades.
2. Names and abbreviations must be printed directly onto the jacket or onto cloth entirely sewn onto the jacket.
3. Letters must conform to the following specifications:

a. Color: Dark Blue (suggested colors)

| Hex | RGB | CMYK (C, M, Y, K) approx. |
|---|---|---|
| #000040 | 0, 0, 64 | 100, 100, 0, 75 |
| #000068 | 0, 0, 104 | 100, 100, 0, 59 |
| #000080 | 0, 0, 128 | 100, 100, 0, 50 |

| Hex | RGB | CMYK (C, M, Y, K) approx. |
|---|---|---|
| #00008B | 0, 0, 139 | 100, 100, 0, 45 |
| #002366 | 0, 35, 102 | 100, 66, 0, 60 |
| #003366 | 0, 51, 102 | 100, 50, 0, 60 |

b. Style: Lettering must be set in an all-capitals sans-serif typeface of normal width (not condensed), such as Arial, Aptos, Calibri, Segoe UI, Verdana, Open Sans, or an equivalent font.

c. Height: between 8 cm and 10 cm

d. Stroke width: between 6mm to a maximum 1.5 cm

4. Letter dimensions may be checked at Weapons control (see m.55-m.57)

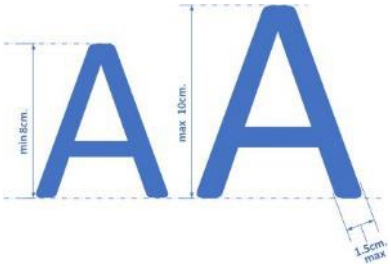



**Figure 20: Illustration of name lettering specifications**

5. The World Champion has the right to have their name and the abbreviation of their national federation printed in red for the following season.
6. An Olympic Champion has the right to have their name and the abbreviation of their national federation printed in gold until the end of the next Olympic Games.

## 8. Effect of Marking on Function

Any markings, colors, names, numbers, logos, or decorations, including paints, inks, transfers, or patches, applied to weapons, clothing, masks, or conductive pistes must not impair their safety performance or functional characteristics, including electrical conductivity and resistance limits specified in this Book.

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**Proposal 70**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.28**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.28 “Conductive jacket” (old m.28, foil-specific) describes the foil conductive over-jacket requirements, including target coverage, fastening, insulation, collar, lamé material, construction, and the non-conductive band. The restructured Article m.28 “Mask Requirements” replaces the foil-specific conductive jacket article with a comprehensive mask requirements article covering all three weapons. The foil conductive jacket provisions from old m.28 are now covered under m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements.” The restructured m.28 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 mask construction provisions and m.27 foil-specific mask provisions, and adds dedicated sub-sections for mesh specifications, bib requirements, safety retention systems, tongue configurations, dimensions, color, and weapon-specific additional requirements.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific conductive jacket article with a comprehensive mask requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves foil conductive jacket provisions to m.30 (Conductive Jacket Requirements)
3. Consolidates mask construction and safety requirements from old m.25 into dedicated sub-sections
4. Adds explicit mesh specifications, bib requirements, and safety retention system sub-sections
5. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific mask requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

---

~~**Conductive jacket**~~ **Part 2: Mask**

**m.28. Mask Requirements 1.** ~~1. The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket which is worn over the protective jacket must cover the valid target of the fencer (cf. t.47) entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

**1. General Construction**

1. Masks must be constructed in accordance with the safety standards described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Masks must carry the quality label specified in those standards.
3. The mask must be made in one piece with proper structural integrity.

**2. Mesh Specifications** ~~2. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must cover a sufficient area to ensure that it covers the valid target in all positions of the fencer. The overlap must always be on the sword-arm side.~~

1. The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm.
2. The wires must have a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter.

3. The entire mesh of the mask must be able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument having:
   a. An angle of the surface of the cone at 4° to the axis.
   b. A pressure of 12 kg.

**3. Bib Requirements** ~~3. The interior of conductive jackets must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the lamé material.~~

1. The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons.
2. The bib must provide complete protection of the throat and neck area.
3. The bib must be securely attached to the mesh portion of the mask.

**4. Safety Retention Systems** ~~4. The conductive collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm and the foil conductive jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. The mask must include two different safety retention systems at the rear.
2. The two ends of the straps of the systems must be firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask.
3. Any retrofitting to existing masks must be carried out by the original manufacturer.
4. The safety retention systems must meet the requirements approved by the SEMI Commission.

**5. Mask with Metallic Tongue** ~~5. The lamé material used must be of conductive thread in both warp and weft. As regards electrical conductibility it must conform to the following requirements. a) The electrical resistance measured between any two points of the lamé material must not be greater than 5 ohms. The resistance will be measured by using a 500g conductive metal weight which has a hemispherical end with a radius of 4 mm. This weight, placed on this end and moved about on the lamé, must maintain continuous contact with a maximum resistance of 5 ohms. b) In no circumstances must the use of a conductive jacket be allowed if it has holes in it, or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit.~~

1. The central band (strap) must not be less than 45 mm wide.
2. The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region to ensure that the mask cannot slide off the head during fencing actions.
3. The band must be of solid material: when stretched, the material must not sustain permanent plastic deformation and must quickly return to its original shape and size.
4. The fastening system of the band must comply with all of the following:
   a. It must use a double security system, meaning that the Velcro™ must be attached at least twice.
   b. The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm.

c. The strap must be secured to each side of the mask by tags to which it is attached by Velcro™, and those tags must have at least the same minimum breaking strain.

**6. Mask without Metallic Tongue** ~~6. The conductive jacket must be so made that when it is laid flat there is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium).~~

1. The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.
2. The main strap must be positioned low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off the head during fencing actions.

**Figure 21: Mask with metallic tongue**

3. Where a magnetic strap system is part of the approved design, the use of the magnetic strap remains mandatory.




**Figure 22: Mask without metallic tongue**




**7. Dimensions and Fit** ~~7. The band of non-conductive material passing between the legs must be at least 3 cm wide (see Figure 14).~~

1. The mask must provide complete coverage of the head, face, and neck during all fencing positions.
2. The mask must fit securely without excessive movement during fencing actions.
3. The dimensions must conform to the standards specified in this Book and to the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**8. External Color and Color Designs**

Masks may feature colored designs on condition that they are approved by the FIE Executive Committee.



**9. Additional Requirements — Foil**

1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin.
2. The mask must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.
3. The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5–2 cm below the chin must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.
4. The electrical contact between the mask and the conductive jacket must be maintained throughout all fencing actions.
5. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other crocodile clip.
6. See m.37 for specific foil wire details.

**10. Additional Requirements — Sabre**

1. The entire mesh, bib of the mask, joined areas, and edges must be conductive.
2. The conductive surface must cover all valid target areas of the head as defined in the competition rules.
3. The mask must maintain electrical continuity with the conductive jacket.
4. The electrical contact between the mask and the conductive jacket must be maintained throughout all fencing actions.
5. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other crocodile clip.
6. See m.38 for specific sabre wire details.

**11. Additional Requirements — Epee**

1. The mask must not be conductive.

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**Proposal 71**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.29**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.29 “Bodywire and attachment plugs” (old m.29, foil-specific) describes the foil bodywire insulation, plug construction, pin assignments, crocodile clip specifications, and guard-end attachment. The restructured Article m.29 “Jacket Requirements” replaces the foil-specific bodywire article with a comprehensive jacket requirements article for all weapons. The foil bodywire provisions from old m.29 are now covered under m.37 “Bodywire and Connection Requirements — Foil.” The restructured m.29 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 jacket and clothing provisions and consolidates jacket construction, material specifications, fastening, seam construction, and épée-specific requirements into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific bodywire article with a comprehensive jacket requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves foil bodywire and plug provisions to m.37 (Bodywire and Connection Requirements — Foil)
3. Consolidates jacket construction and coverage requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material specifications, fastening, and seam construction sub-sections
5. Includes épée-specific jacket requirements as a dedicated additional requirements sub-section

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Bodywire and attachment plugs**~~ **Part 3: Jacket**

**m.29. Jacket Requirements 1.** ~~1. a) The conductive wires of the bodywire must be well insulated electrically from each other, twisted or joined together, and not be affected by humidity. b) This bodywire has a connecting plug which must be made of a transparent material at each end. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire. c) The electrical resistance of each of these conductive wires (plug to plug and plug to crocodile clip) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

**1. Jacket General Requirements**

1. The lower edge of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm when the fencer is in the on-guard position.
2. The jacket must include a lining making a double thickness of material for:
   a. The sleeve down to the elbow of the sword arm
   b. The flank up to the region of the armpit
3. The jacket must be constructed to allow full freedom of movement while maintaining protective coverage.

**2. Material Specifications** ~~2. a) At the spool end the three-pin male plug, which must comply with the conditions of manufacture and assembly laid down in Article m.55, will be attached to the wires in the following manner: the pin at 15 mm from the centre pin to the conductive jacket; the central pin to the wire in the weapon; the pin at 20 mm from the centre pin to the foil earth circuit or the conductive piste. b) The wire which joins the rear connection of the bodywire to the conductive jacket by a crocodile clip must be separate for at least 40 cm. This wire must be soldered to the crocodile clip and this soldering must not be covered by any insulation or any material whatsoever. However, any method of fixing which presents the same guarantees as soldering may be used, provided it has been accepted by the SEMI Committee. c) The crocodile clip must be robust and ensure perfect contact with the conductive jacket. Its width at the point of contact must be at least 10 mm; the inside of the clip must leave a free space at least 8 mm long by 3 mm high. It must be clipped onto the back of the conductive jacket on the sword-arm side.~~

1. The jacket must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material must comply with the safety standards and test methods described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Rules.

**3. Fastening Requirements** ~~3. a) At the end nearest the foil, inside the guard, any method of attachment is allowed but the method adopted must always conform to the specification laid down in Article m.5. b) In addition, the pins of the plug must in no circumstances be able to touch the metal part of the guard.~~

1. The jacket must be capable of being completely closed.
2. The collar must be capable of being completely fastened.

**4. Seam Construction**

1. Seams must be constructed to maintain the 800 Newton resistance standard.

**5. Additional Requirements — Épée**

1. At épée, the fencer is required to wear a regulation jacket which covers the whole of the surface of the trunk.
2. The jacket must provide complete coverage of the valid target area as defined in the competition rules.
3. No conductive surface is required for épée jackets.

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**Proposal 72**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.30**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.30 “Mask” (old m.30, épée-specific) describes the épée mask prohibition on conductive material and the bib shape requirement. The restructured Article m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements” replaces the épée-specific mask article with a comprehensive conductive jacket requirements article for all weapons. The épée mask provisions from old m.30 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements.” The restructured m.30 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.28 foil conductive jacket provisions and m.34 sabre conductive jacket provisions, and consolidates coverage, material, construction, electrical resistance, and weapon-specific requirements into six dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the épée-specific mask article with a comprehensive conductive jacket requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves épée mask provisions to m.28 (Mask Requirements)

3. Consolidates foil conductive jacket requirements from old m.28 and sabre conductive jacket requirements from old m.34 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material requirements, construction requirements, and electrical resistance sub-sections
5. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific conductive jacket requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

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~~**Rules Specific to Epee**~~

~~**Mask**~~

**m.30. Conductive Jacket Requirements** ~~1. The mask must not be covered, in whole or in part, by conductive material or material which can cause the point to glance off (cf. m.25).~~

**1. General Coverage**

1. The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket, which is worn over the protective jacket, must cover the valid target of the fencer entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position.
2. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must cover a sufficient area to ensure that it covers the valid target in all positions of the fencer.
3. The overlap must always be on the sword-arm side.
4. The interior of conductive jackets must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the conductive lamé material.

**2. Conductive Jacket — Material Requirements** ~~2. The mask must be so shaped that the bib reaches below the prominences of the collar bones (clavicles).~~

1. The lamé material used must be of conductive thread in both warp and weft.
2. Holes or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit is forbidden.

**3. Conductive Jacket — Construction Requirements**

1. The jacket when laid flat is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium).
2. The band of non-conductive material passing between the legs and is fixed to the lower edge of the back of the jacket must be at least 3 cm wide.
3. The conductive collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm.

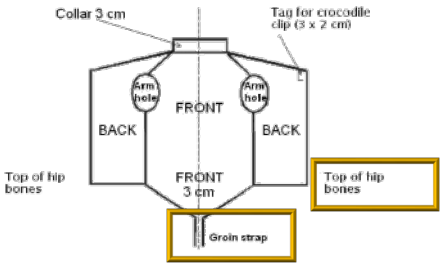



**Figure 23: Conduct jacket illustration**

## 4. Conductive Jacket — Electrical Resistance

1. The electrical resistance measured between any two points of the conductive material must not be greater than 5 ohms +1 ohm.
2. Electrical resistance must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The resistance will be measured by using a 500 g conductive metal which has a hemispherical end with a radius of 4 mm.
   b. This weight, placed on this end and moved about on the lamé, must maintain continuous contact with a maximum resistance of 5 ohms +1 ohm.

## 5. Additional Requirements — Foil

1. The foil conductive jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.
2. Including as mentioned in t. 77

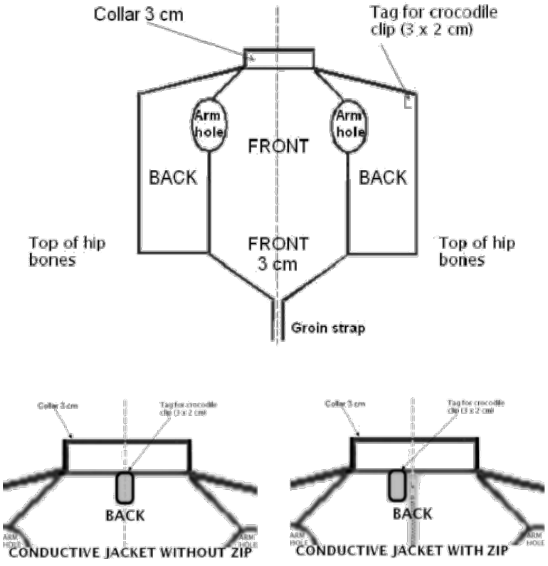



**Figure 24: Foil conductive jacket details**

## 6. Additional Requirements — Sabre

1. The conductive jacket or conductive sleeveless over-jacket must cover the valid target entirely.
2. The valid target includes the area above a horizontal line across the top of the folds formed by the fencer's thighs and trunk when in the on-guard position.
3. Sleeves must reach to the middle of the hand when the sword arm is extended and the hand is in the position of the sixte parry.
4. The conductive material must cover the entire arm.
5. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must overlap sufficiently to cover the target in all fencing positions.
6. The overlap must be on the sword-arm side and must not extend below the horizontal line defining the valid target.

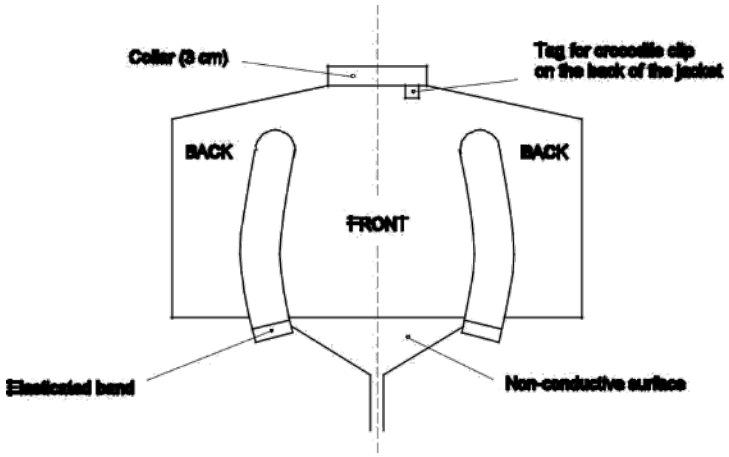



**Figure 25: Sabre conductive jacket**

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**Proposal 73**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.31**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.31 “Bodywire” (old m.31, épée-specific) describes the épée bodywire wire insulation, plug construction, pin assignments, guard-end attachment, and insulating sheath requirements. The restructured Article m.31 “Breeches Requirements” replaces the épée-specific bodywire article with a dedicated breeches requirements article. The épée bodywire provisions from old m.31 are now covered under m.38 “Épée Body Wire.” The restructured m.31 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 breeches and clothing provisions and consolidates breeches construction, material specifications, and length and fastening requirements into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the épée-specific bodywire article with a dedicated breeches requirements article
2. Moves épée bodywire provisions to m.38 (Épée Body Wire)
3. Consolidates breeches requirements from old m.25 clothing provisions into a single article
4. Adds explicit material specifications and length and fastening sub-sections

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**~~Bodywire~~ Part 4: Breeches**

**m.31. Breeches Requirements** ~~1.a) The conductive wires of the bodywire must be well insulated from each other, insensitive to humidity, and either joined or twisted together. b) The maximum electrical resistance allowed for each of these conductive wires from plug to plug is 1 ohm.~~

**1. Material Specifications** ~~2. The bodywire has a connecting plug which must be made of a transparent material at each end. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire.~~

1. The breeches must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material must comply with the safety standards and test methods described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Rules.

**2. Length and Fastening** ~~3. At the spool end, a three-pin male plug is connected to the wire as follows: a. the pin 15 mm from the centre pin to whichever wire is most directly connected to the pointe d'arrêt; b. the centre pin to the other wire on the épée; c. the pin 20 mm from the centre pin to the épée's earth circuit and to the conductive piste.~~

1. The breeches must be fastened below the knees.
2. The fastening system must be secure and must not come undone during competition.
3. The breeches must overlap with socks to ensure complete leg coverage.

~~4. This plug must conform to the conditions of manufacture and mounting specified in Article m.55.~~

~~5. Inside the guard the choice of system is free but the system chosen must comply with the conditions of Article m.5.~~

~~6. In addition, the pins of the plug must not on any account permit contact with the metal of the guard.~~

~~7. The two wires coming from the tip must be protected by two insulating sheaths, one for each wire, from the point where they enter the guard right up to the two insulated connections on the plug socket. In no case may uninsulated wires extend beyond the plug connections (cf. m.5, m.9).~~

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**Proposal 74**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.32**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.32 “Mask” (old m.32, sabre-specific) describes the sabre mask conductivity, bib covering, trim, electrical contact, and resistance requirements. The restructured Article m.32 “Glove Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific mask article with a comprehensive glove requirements article for all weapons. The sabre mask provisions from old m.32 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.32 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 and m.33 glove provisions and consolidates coverage, construction, material, and weapon-specific requirements into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific mask article with a comprehensive glove requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves sabre mask provisions to m.28 (Mask Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates glove requirements from old m.25 and m.33 into a single article
4. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific glove requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

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~~**Rules Specific to Sabre**~~

~~**Mask**~~ **Part 5: Glove**

**m.32. Glove Requirements** ~~1. The metal mesh of the mask must not be insulated and must ensure electrical conductivity.~~

**1. General Coverage Requirements**

1. At all weapons, the gauntlet (cuff) of the glove must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor’s sword arm.
2. The glove must prevent the opponent’s blade from entering the sleeve of the jacket.
3. The gauntlet (cuff) must maintain this coverage and protective function throughout all fencing actions.

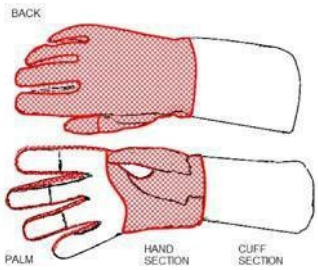



**Figure 26: Section of the glove**

**2. Construction Standards** ~~2. The bib and any trim must be entirely covered with conductive material with the same electrical characteristics as the conductive jacket.~~

1. Any hole in the hand of the glove is forbidden.
2. The closure of the glove must be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb.
3. The glove must be constructed so that seams, closures, and materials do not tear, split, or fail under normal fencing conditions.

**3. Material Requirements** ~~3. The trim may also be made of conductive material.~~

1. The glove must provide protection consistent with the clothing resistance standards specified in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook for the relevant weapon and area.
2. Under normal fencing conditions, the glove material and seams must not allow penetration or tearing that compromises protection of the hand or forearm

**4. Additional Requirements — Foil** ~~4. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with another crocodile clip. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.~~

1. The glove may be slightly padded.
2. Padding, if present, must not alter the fit or compromise the security of the glove.

**5. Additional Requirements — Sabre** ~~5. The electrical resistance between the crocodile clip and any point on the mask must be less than 5 ohms. The crocodile clips, the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the ends of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between the two crocodile clips) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Where the glove forms part of the valid target, it must provide electrical continuity so that hits on the hand register correctly in accordance with the scoring rules for sabre.
2. The material of the fencing glove must have a level of protection of 800 N on the areas shown in the applicable diagram (see Figure 27) ; the seams must have a minimum strength of 200 N, and the cuff must have a level of protection of 350 N.

3. The conductive material, which can be removable or fixed, must cover all of the gauntlet (cuff) of the glove down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the on-guard position and when the sword arm is straight.
4. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet (cuff) to a depth of at least 5 cm.
5. An elastic band, popper button, or any system which guarantees conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI Committee must be used.
6. When a conductive overlay is worn, the overlay must contain a device which fixes its position on the arm so that its position cannot be changed during the bout.
7. The conductive material must satisfy the specified control conditions (see m.30.2).

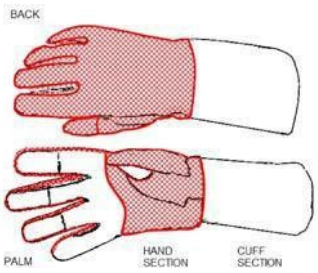



**Figure 27: Shaded areas requiring 800N for sabre gloves**

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**Proposal 75**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.33**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.33 “Glove” (old m.33, sabre-specific) describes the sabre glove protection levels, conductive material coverage, gauntlet depth, contact guarantee systems, and lamé control conditions. The restructured Article m.33 “Under-Plastron Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific glove article with a dedicated under-plastron requirements article. The sabre glove provisions from old m.33 are now covered under m.32 “Glove Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.33 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 under-plastron provisions and consolidates mandatory use, coverage design, material specifications, and construction requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific glove article with a dedicated under-plastron requirements article
2. Moves sabre glove provisions to m.32 (Glove Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates under-plastron requirements from old m.25 into a single article

4. Adds explicit coverage design, material specifications, and construction requirements sub-sections

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## ~~Glove~~ Part 6: Under-plastron

**m.33. Under-plastron Requirements** ~~1. The material of the fencing glove must have a level of protection of 800N on the areas shown in the diagram below, the seams a minimum strength of 200N and cuff a level of protection of 350N. The conductive material, which can be removable or fixed, must cover all of the gauntlet of the glove down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the 'on-guard' position and when the sword arm is straight. Inside the glove there must be fixed the FIE quality label, granted after the homologation procedure, with the year of manufacture and stating 800N.~~

### 1. Mandatory Use

1. An undergarment consisting of a protective under plastron is obligatory for all fencers at all weapons.
2. The under plastron must be worn beneath the jacket.

### 2. Coverage Design ~~2. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet to a depth of at least 5 cm.~~

1. The under-plastron must cover the vital upper areas of the body.
2. The coverage must follow the design given in this Book and Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The under-plastron must provide protection for:
   a. The torso.
   b. The sword-arm shoulder and upper arm.
   c. The armpit region of the sword arm

### 3. Material Specifications ~~3. In order to guarantee a good contact with the sleeve of the conductive jacket, it is necessary to use an elastic band, a popper button or any system which will guarantee conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI Committee. When a conductive overlay is worn, the overlay must contain a device which fixes the position of the overlay on the arm so that its position on the arm cannot be changed during the bout.~~

1. The under-plastron must be made of material resistant to 800 Newtons.
2. The material must provide protection consistent with the clothing resistance standards specified in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The under-plastron must maintain its specified protective properties throughout its service life under normal fencing conditions.

**4. Construction Requirements** ~~4. The conductive tissue (lamé) must satisfy the specified control conditions (cf m.28.5)~~

1. The under-plastron must be constructed without openings or gaps that could compromise protection.
2. Seams must be constructed to maintain the 800 Newton resistance standard.
3. The under-plastron must fit securely without shifting during fencing actions.

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**Proposal 76**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.34**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.34 “Conductive jacket” (old m.34, sabre-specific) describes the sabre conductive over-jacket coverage, arm coverage, collar, fastening, lamé testing, sleeve fixation, and leg strap requirements. The restructured Article m.34 “Chest Protector Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific conductive jacket article with a dedicated chest protector requirements article. The sabre conductive jacket provisions from old m.34 are now covered under m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.34 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 chest protector provisions and consolidates mandatory and optional use, construction standards, material and design requirements, and foil-specific requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific conductive jacket article with a dedicated chest protector requirements article
2. Moves sabre conductive jacket provisions to m.30 (Conductive Jacket Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates chest protector requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit foil-specific additional requirements sub-section for surface treatment

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~~**Conductive jacket**~~ **Part 7: Chest Protector**

**m.34. Chest Protector Requirements** ~~1. The fencer must wear, over his jacket, a conductive over-jacket, the conductive surface of which must cover entirely and without omission the valid surface of the body above a horizontal line which, when the fencer is on guard, joins, round the fencer’s trunk, the tops of the two hip bones.~~

**1. Mandatory and Optional Use**

1. At all weapons, the use of a chest protector is:
   a. Compulsory for women.

b. Optional for men.

2. The chest protector must be worn in accordance with weapon-specific requirements set out in this Book and in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**2. General Construction Standards** ~~2. The conductive surface must cover the arms as far as the wrists. The jacket must have a collar which is at least 3 cm high. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm x 3 cm in the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. The chest protector must be made of material capable of distributing impact force.
2. The chest protector must fit securely and must not shift during fencing actions.
3. The chest protector must not impede freedom of movement necessary for fencing.

**3. Material and Design Requirements** ~~3. Whatever means of fastening is used, the conductive material must be ample enough to guarantee covering the valid target area in any position.~~

1. The rigid material must withstand the impact of normal weapon strikes without cracking or deforming in a way that reduces protection.
2. The design must provide the required protection without creating bulk that interferes with proper fencing movements or the fit of other protective clothing.
3. The chest protector must be worn in the correct position to protect the vital upper areas of the body.

**4. Additional Requirements — Foil** ~~4. The conductive material (lamé) must satisfy the conditions laid down for testing (cf. m.28).~~

1. At foil, the chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron / under-plastron.
2. A surface treatment for foil chest protectors is required to prevent the chest protector from causing non-valid hits to register on the scoring apparatus.
3. The surface treatment for foil chest protectors:
   a. Must consist of a soft material such as ethylene-vinyl acetate (E.V.A.) covering the entire surface of the chest protector on the side facing the opponent.
   b. The E.V.A. material must have a thickness of 4 mm and a density of 22 kg/m³.
   c. The material must be either attached to the chest protector or incorporated into it as a single unit.
   d. The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge.

~~5. The sleeves of the conductive jacket must be fixed at the wrist by means of an elastic band. There must be a strap passing between the fencer's legs to keep the jacket in place (see Figure 15).~~

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**Proposal 77**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.35**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.35 “Bodywire and plugs” (old m.35, sabre-specific) states that the sabre fencer must use the foil bodywire configuration. The restructured Article m.35 “Sock Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific bodywire reference with a dedicated sock requirements article. The sabre bodywire provisions from old m.35 are now covered under m.39 “Sabre Body Wire.” The restructured m.35 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 sock and clothing provisions and consolidates length and coverage, fastening, uniform standards, and turn-over allowances into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific bodywire reference with a dedicated sock requirements article
2. Moves sabre bodywire provisions to m.39 (Sabre Body Wire)
3. Consolidates sock requirements from old m.25 clothing provisions into a single article
4. Adds explicit uniform standards and turn-over allowances sub-sections

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~~**Bodywire and plugs**~~ **Part 8: Socks**

**m.35. Sock Requirements** ~~1. The fencer must use the bodywire specified for foil, plugged into the guard plug socket by means of any system which conforms with the conditions for manufacture and assembly laid down in Articles m.5, m.29 and m.55.~~

**1. Length and Coverage Requirements**

1. With breeches, the fencer must wear socks which cover the legs right up to the breeches.
2. There must be no gap between the top of the socks and the bottom of the breeches.
3. The socks must provide complete coverage of the lower leg.

**2. Fastening Requirements**

1. Socks must be held up in such a way that they cannot fall during competition.
2. The fastening system (elastic, garters, or other means) must be secure and reliable.
3. Socks must maintain their position during all fencing actions.

**3. Uniform Standards**

1. Both socks worn by the fencer must match the same design and color.
2. Socks must conform to the national uniform standards set out in Article m.26.5 and in this Book.

**4. Turn-Over Allowances**

1. The fencer is permitted to wear socks with a 10 cm turn-over showing the colors of their national team.
2. If a turn-over is worn, it must be consistent on both legs (see m.27.5-m.27.6).

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**Proposal 78**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.36**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.36 “Checking of Material Competence” (old m.36) describes the SEMI Committee’s supervision of electrical material checking at World Championships and Olympic Games, committee appointment, and right of seizure. The restructured Article m.36 “Body Wire Requirements — General” replaces the material competence checking article with a comprehensive general body wire requirements article applicable to all weapons. The material competence checking provisions from old m.36 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.36 draws its content from the common bodywire provisions across old m.29, m.31, and m.35 and consolidates general construction, electrical resistance standards, plug and socket requirements, and testing compliance into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the material competence checking article with a comprehensive general body wire requirements article
2. Moves material competence checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates common bodywire requirements from old m.29, m.31, and m.35 into a single article
4. Adds explicit electrical resistance standards, plug and socket requirements, and testing compliance sub-sections

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~~**Chapter 3. Checking of Material Competence**~~ **Part 9: Body Wire and Electrical Connections**

**m.36. Body Wire Requirements — General** ~~1. The checking of the electrical material used by the organisers for the World Championships (Open, Junior and Cadet) and the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games, as well as the checking of the fencers’ equipment, must be supervised by the SEMI Committee.~~

**1. General Construction**

1. The conductive wires of the body wire must be insulated electrically from each other.
2. Wires must be twisted or joined together and must not be affected by humidity.

3. Any external sheath or covering of the body wire must be made of white-colored or clear material.
4. The body wire must be constructed to withstand repeated flexing and use.
5. The body wire must maintain electrical integrity throughout its length during all fencing actions.

**2. Electrical Resistance Standards** ~~2. To carry out this supervision, three members of the above-mentioned Committee must be appointed and put in charge of this work. However, when the organising country possesses somebody competent, recognised as such by the SEMI, two members of the above Committee will be appointed.~~

1. The electrical resistance of each conductive wire (plug to plug) must not exceed 1 ohm.
2. Body wires that exceed the resistance limit must not be used in competition.
3. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Plug and Socket Requirements** ~~3. The delegates of the SEMI Committee of the FIE have the right at any time to seize a weapon, a bodywire, a conductive jacket or any item of equipment or clothing for examination.~~

1. The body wire must have a connecting plug at each end (see weapon-side socket requirements in m.8, m.17 and m.25, and Chapter 4).
2. Plugs must be made of transparent material to allow visual inspection.
3. If no securing device is fitted on the weapon-side socket assembly, a securing device must be fitted on the corresponding plug of the body wire.
4. The securing device must prevent the body wire from becoming accidentally unplugged during the bout while still allowing deliberate disconnection when not fencing.

**4. Testing and Compliance**

1. The body wire must be tested in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Any body wire that does not meet the resistance requirements must not be used in competition.

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**Proposal 79**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.37**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.37 “Checking of Fencers’ Equipment” (old m.37) describes fencer responsibility for equipment, label of guarantee requirements, checking procedures, and committee appointments for equipment checking. The restructured Article m.37 “Foil Body Wire” replaces the

fencers' equipment checking article with a dedicated foil body wire requirements article. The equipment checking provisions from old m.37 are now covered under Chapter 5 "Weapons Control." The restructured m.37 draws its content from the old M Book's m.29 foil bodywire provisions and consolidates body wire configuration, earth wire to conductive jacket connection, and mask-to-jacket connection wire into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the fencers' equipment checking article with a dedicated foil body wire requirements article
2. Moves equipment checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates foil bodywire requirements from old m.29 into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit mask-to-jacket connection wire sub-section

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~~**Checking of Fencers' Equipment**~~

**m.37. Foil Body Wire** ~~1. In all official FIE competitions the fencers are responsible for their equipment (including weapons and clothes) at the moment they present themselves on the piste.~~

**1. Body Wire Configuration**

1. The foil body wire must have three conductors.
2. At the spool end, the three-pin male plug will be attached to the wires in the following manner:
   a. The pin at 15 mm from the center pin: to the conductive jacket.
   b. The central pin: to the wire in the weapon.
   c. The pin at 20 mm from the center pin: to earth.
3. At the weapon end, the two-pin plug is attached:
   a. One pin: to the weapon wire.
   b. One pin: to earth (guard/blade).

**2. Earth Wire to Conductive Jacket Connection** ~~2. In particular blades, masks and clothing must all carry the label of guarantee specified in the safety standards annexed to these Rules.~~

1. The earth wire with a crocodile clip must connect the body wire to the conductive jacket.
2. The crocodile clip must be soldered to the wire.
3. The electrical resistance in this connection must not exceed 1 ohm.
4. The crocodile clip design and size must conform to specified conditions in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Mask-to-Jacket Connection Wire** ~~3. The forms of checking laid down by these Rules are only intended to help organisers who must apply the Rules and fencers who must always~~

~~respect these Rules. These checks can, therefore, in no way absolve any fencers who break the Rules from responsibility.~~

1. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a wire with two crocodile clips:
   a. One crocodile clip attaches to the conductive flap on the back of the jacket.
   b. The other crocodile clip attaches to the conductive bib of the mask.
2. This wire must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long.
3. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.
4. The electrical resistance between the two crocodile clips must not exceed 1 ohm.
5. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

~~**Body responsible for checks**~~

~~4. The Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint the member(s) of the SEMI Committee to be responsible for the checking of weapons, clothing and equipment of the fencers at the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games and for the World Championships.~~

~~5. For other official FIE competitions the Organising Committee will appoint one or more persons to be responsible for this checking.~~

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**Proposal 80**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.38**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.38 “Presentation of equipment to the Weapon Checking Centre” (old m.38) describes fencer obligations for equipment presentation, submission procedures, checking timelines, delegation responsibilities, defective weapon handling, mask safety enforcement, equipment return, and conductive jacket marking. The restructured Article m.38 “Épée Body Wire” replaces the equipment presentation article with a dedicated épée body wire requirements article. The equipment presentation provisions from old m.38 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.38 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.31 épée bodywire provisions and consolidates épée body wire configuration and épée-specific connection requirements into two dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the equipment presentation article with a dedicated épée body wire requirements article
2. Moves equipment presentation provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates épée bodywire requirements from old m.31 into a single dedicated article
4. Specifies that épée does not require conductive clothing connection

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~~**Presentation of equipment to the Weapon Checking Centre**~~

**m.38. Épée Body Wire** ~~1. Fencers are obliged to present themselves at the Weapon Checking Centre, at the time advised in the timetable of each official competition of the FIE, with the equipment they intend to use during the event in question. The number of articles handed to the Checking Centre is limited to four weapons, three bodywires, two conductive jackets, two masks and three mask-to-jacket leads per fencer. To make the checking of weapons easier and allow the complete observation of the tip and its base, foil fencers must present their foils at the weapon control with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm.~~

**1. Épée Body Wire Configuration**

1. The épée body wire must have three conductors.
2. At the spool end, the three-pin male plug is connected in the standard configuration:

a. One pin: to the first weapon wire (connected to tip).

b. One pin: to the second weapon wire (connected to tip).

c. One pin: to earth (the guard and blade).

3. At the weapon end, the three-pin plug connects to the socket assembly inside the guard:

a. Two pins connect to the two wires from the tip assembly

b. One pin connects to earth (the guard and blade)

**2. No Conductive Clothing Connection — Épée** ~~2. Each competitor must submit his weapons in a fencing bag at the Weapon Checking Centre reception. An inventory of the equipment is made by an organising official and a label is put on the bag, indicating the name of the country of the competitor. The bags are stored in the order in which they arrive, and are checked in the same order.~~

1. The épée body wire does not require connection to any conductive clothing.
2. The body wire connects only to the weapon and to the spool.

~~3. Provision should be made for weapons and clothing to be submitted on the morning of the day before the competition. Having been checked, the material will be returned to the delegations at the end of the day. Weapons, equipment and clothing presented to the Checking Centre after 5 p.m. on the day before each event may be refused.~~

~~4. Each head of delegation must indicate where he can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to his fencers is being checked.~~

~~5. If a weapon is found to be defective at the first check a form is attached indicating the fault: e.g. the length of the blade, the insulation, the spring of the point, cutting edges, etc. This form is completed at the second check. However, when a weapon is rejected, it must go through the entire cycle again.~~

~~6. A mask which does not comply with the safety requirements laid down in this article will be rendered visibly unusable by the weapon checking personnel or the Referee in the presence of~~

~~the person who presented the mask to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned.~~

~~7. The fencers or the team captain can only insist on the return of the equipment which has been checked one hour before the start of the event.~~

~~8. A conductive jacket which is considered to be unusable will be so marked with a very visible coloured paint by a member of the FIE SEMI Commission.~~

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**Proposal 81**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.39**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.39 (old m.39) states that if material or equipment appears to have been assembled to control hit registration or cause apparatus malfunction, the SEMI Committee representative may require a penalty. The restructured Article m.39 “Sabre Body Wire” replaces the penalty provision with a dedicated sabre body wire requirements article. The penalty provision from old m.39 is now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.39 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.35 sabre bodywire provisions and the common foil bodywire structure, and consolidates sabre body wire configuration, guard socket requirements, earth wire to conductive jacket connection, and mask-to-jacket connection wire into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the material assembly penalty provision with a dedicated sabre body wire requirements article
2. Moves the penalty provision to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates sabre bodywire requirements from old m.35 and common foil structure into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit guard socket requirements and mask-to-jacket connection wire sub-sections

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~~**Checking of Fencers’ Equipment**~~

**m.39. Sabre Body Wire** ~~1. If material or equipment presented to the Checking Centre appears to have been assembled in such a way that the fencer can control at will the registering of hits or the malfunctioning of the judging apparatus, the representative of the SEMI Committee may, after the examination of the irregular items, require a penalty against the person who submitted them.~~

**1. Sabre Body Wire Configuration**

1. The sabre body wire must have three conductors and is similar in construction to the foil body wire.
2. At the weapon end, the plug connects to the socket assembly inside the guard.

3. When attached to the spool and weapon, the body wire must maintain electrical contact with the guard of the weapon.

**2. Guard Socket Requirements**

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the body wire is plugged.
2. The socket assembly must ensure reliable electrical contact during all fencing actions.
3. The socket assembly must be secured to prevent disconnection during the bout.

**3. Earth Wire to Conductive Jacket Connection**

1. The body wire must maintain electrical continuity between the scoring apparatus and the conductive surfaces (weapon and jacket).
2. The two sockets of the body wire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard, making a closed electrical circuit through:
   a. The body wire.
   b. The spool.
   c. The cable connecting the spool to the scoring apparatus.

**4. Mask-to-Jacket Connection Wire**

1. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a wire with two crocodile clips.
   a. One crocodile clip attaches to the conductive flap on the back of the jacket.
   b. The other crocodile clip attaches to the mask.
2. This wire must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long.
3. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.
4. The electrical resistance between the two crocodile clips must not exceed 1 ohm.
5. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

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**Proposal 82**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**
**Article m.40**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.40 (old m.40) is a check-marks header article with no substantive content. The restructured Article m.40 “General Provisions - Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure” replaces this empty header with a comprehensive scope, definitions, and reference documents article for the entire scoring apparatus chapter. The restructured m.40 establishes the organizational

framework for Chapter 4, defining key terms and cross-referencing the Materials Homologation Handbook.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces an empty header article with a substantive general provisions article for Chapter 4
2. Establishes clear scope covering central scoring apparatus, connection systems, pistes, power supplies, and display systems
3. Provides formal definitions for key technical terms used throughout the chapter
4. Adds reference document and technical specifications amendment provisions

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## Chapter 4: Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure

## Part 1: Scope, Definitions and Reference Documents

### m.40. General Provisions - Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure (all weapons)

#### 1. Scope

1. This Chapter covers the requirements for:

a. Central scoring apparatus (m.42–m.45).

b. Connection systems, including spools, cables, and suspended systems (m.48–m.49).

c. Conductive pistes (m.50).

d. Source of electrical current (m.51).

e. Extension lamps and display systems (m.52–m.53).

2. These provisions apply to all official FIE competitions and are recommended for all fencing venues using electrical scoring equipment.

#### 2. Definitions

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms apply:

1. Central scoring apparatus: The electrical device that receives signals from the fencers' weapons via connection systems and indicates valid and non-valid hits through visual and audible signals.
2. Extension lamps: External light signals placed outside the central apparatus to increase visibility of hit registration for referees, fencers, and spectators.
3. Display board / Central display apparatus: Electronic scoreboard displaying fencers' names, scores, time, period, and penalty cards, required for finals and higher-level competition rounds.
4. Prototype: A complete sample apparatus (including spools, connections, and all ancillary equipment) submitted for examination and approval by the SEMI Committee prior to use in official FIE competitions.
5. Homologation: The formal approval process for equipment and materials as specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook, separate from event-specific apparatus approval.

6. Connection system: The complete electrical path from the central apparatus to the fencer, including spools or suspended cables, connecting cables, plugs, sockets, and safety devices.
7. Conductive piste: The metallic or conductive surface covering the fencing area, used to neutralize hits made on the floor in foil and sabre.

### 3. Reference Documents

1. The functional and construction requirements of this Chapter are complemented by the Materials Homologation Handbook, which contains detailed numerical tolerances, test methods, and conformity assessment procedures for scoring apparatus and related equipment.
2. Where this Chapter specifies performance requirements, the Materials Homologation Handbook specifies how conformance is verified

### 4. Technical Specifications Amendments

The SEMI Committee can propose variances in the timing specifications for any apparatus in the light of experience, laboratory tests, and consultation with other Commissions.

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**Proposal 83**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.41**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.41 (old m.41) describes check mark requirements for checked equipment and repair procedures. The restructured Article m.41 “Authorization of Apparatus” replaces the check mark requirements article with a comprehensive apparatus authorization article. The check mark provisions from old m.41 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.41 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.44 (authorised designs), m.46–m.49 (approval scope, identification, disclaimer, costs) provisions and consolidates authorized apparatus designs, scope of approval, identification, disclaimer, and cost provisions into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the check mark requirements article with a comprehensive apparatus authorization article
2. Moves check mark provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates authorization, approval scope, identification, and cost provisions from old m.44–m.49 into a single article
4. Adds explicit disclaimer of guarantee and costs of examination sub-sections

**m.41. Authorization of Apparatus (all weapons)** ~~1. The items of equipment which have been thus checked will be distinctively marked. A fencer must not, on pain of penalties (cf. t.120), use any equipment which does not bear this check mark.~~

**1. Authorized Apparatus Designs**

1. Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorized.
2. Apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorized by the SEMI are permitted.
3. Apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only, are excluded.

**2. Scope of Approval** ~~2. Any repairs to equipment rejected during the checking can be carried out in the repair workshop. Repaired equipment will, however, only be tested again after the first set of checks of the other fencers' equipment has been completed.~~

1. Apparatus approval is design-specific; the manufacturer is responsible for ensuring that all apparatus supplied for competition conform to the approved design and meet all technical requirements at the time of use.
2. The SEMI Committee is willing to examine prototypes submitted by constructors even if not intended for an imminent official competition.
3. Approval is given only for one established design which conforms to the drawing submitted, not as a general approval for all products made by any manufacturer.
4. Manufacturers may state in publicity only that the design has been used at a specific official competition, but they must guarantee the apparatus conforms to the approved design.

**3. Identification and Liability**

1. Every approved apparatus must carry, on its base, a metallic plate identifying its specific characteristics (manufacturer, year of manufacture, model, technical information).

**4. Disclaimer of Guarantee**

Approval by the SEMI Committee and its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction or use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators.

**5. Costs of Examination**

All expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus.

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**Proposal 84**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.42**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.42 (old m.42) describes the personnel and equipment required for checking weapons at competitions, including gauge specifications, testing devices, and workshop team organization. The restructured Article m.42 “Core Functional and Safety Requirements of Apparatus” replaces the checking personnel article with a comprehensive functional and safety requirements article for all scoring apparatus. The personnel and equipment checking provisions from old m.42 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.42 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.50–m.51 (requirements for electrical equipment) provisions and consolidates hit registration, visual signals, power supply, clock, remote control, and audible signal requirements into fifteen dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the checking personnel and equipment article with a comprehensive apparatus functional requirements article
2. Moves personnel and equipment checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates apparatus functional requirements from old m.50–m.51 into a single article
4. Adds explicit clock resolution, VRS time output, referee remote control, and audible signal failsafe sub-sections

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~~**Personnel and equipment required for checking**~~

**m.42. Core Functional and Safety Requirements of Apparatus (all weapons)** ~~1. In order to allow those carrying out the checking to fulfil their task, the organisers are required to make available the equipment and the personnel necessary to carry out the work.~~

**1. Registration and Non-registration of Hits**

1. A hit made on the conductive piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus.
2. Such hits may not prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent.

**2. Protection Against Unauthorized Interruption** ~~2. The Organising Committee must provide the FIE technical delegates responsible for checking the weapons and equipment with at least the following apparatus: a. Two gauges allowing the lengths of blades and the depths and diameters of the guards at all weapons to be measured quickly. b. Devices for measuring the flexibility of blades and the resistance of the mesh of masks. c. An electrical checking device to check quickly the electrical resistance and that the bodywire and the weapon are correctly assembled. d. Weights of 750 g and 500 g to test the springs of the points in épée and foil, in the workshop and at each piste. e. A device allowing the lighting stroke and residual travel of épée points to be accurately measured, in the workshop and at each piste. f. Labels to~~

~~indicate that a weapon has been checked and that it satisfies the regulation, or has been rejected. g. In the world championships and Olympic Games the control of blades by Foucault current is mandatory. h. The organisers must provide a special stamp to be affixed to each conductive jacket to enable the referees to verify that its resistance in ohms has been checked by the technical delegates of the FIE. i. A special ink or paint must be provided to mark the guards, blades and points of weapons which have been checked. Nevertheless, those responsible may use other methods to mark the weapon and conductive jackets.~~

The apparatus must not have any device whereby anyone other than the person detailed to supervise it can interrupt its working during a bout.

### 3. Visual Signals

1. The apparatus should have a pilot light to show that it is switched on. This light must be dim and colorless.
2. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be visible to the Referee, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made.
3. Signal lamps may be fitted with translucent covers. These covers must be removable to allow the use of uncovered lights when venue conditions require it, such as strong sunlight or outdoor competition.
4. It must be possible to attach extension lamps to the exterior of the apparatus to increase the visibility of the signals.

### 4. Signal Persistence

1. Signal lamps, once activated, must remain lit until the apparatus is reset.
2. Signals must not extinguish or flicker due to subsequent hits or vibrations.

### 5. Reset Controls

The resetting switches must be placed either on top of or on the front part of the apparatus.

### 6. Power Supply

1. Apparatus must always be equipped with a socket to allow it to be powered either by 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.

1. Apparatus must be based on a 12 volt supply with a tolerance of ±5%.
2. If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment.
3. The wiring must be designed so that apparatus cannot become connected by mistake directly to the mains supply.

### 7. Integrated Clock and Score Display

1. Each central scoring apparatus used in official competitions must include an integrated match clock and score display (see m.43-m.45).
2. The clock and score display form part of the functional configuration of the apparatus for the purposes of approval and use.
3. The clock and score display must be clearly visible at all times to:
    a. The Referee.
    b. Both fencers.
    c. Coaches and team officials in the field of play area.
    d. Spectators in the competition hall.
4. Visibility must be ensured under normal indoor lighting conditions and under enhanced lighting used for finals and television production.
5. Any external scoreboard or display board used in addition to the central scoring apparatus must reproduce, without modification, the match time and scores generated by the approved apparatus.

**8. Clock Resolution and Measurement Capability**

1. The match clock must be capable of measuring and internally tracking time in units of one hundredth of a second for the entire duration of each bout and team relay
2. The internal time base stability and precision tolerances are specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. Any user visible display that presents the official bout time (on the central apparatus or on external display boards) must reproduce the time generated by this clock without applying independent rounding or filtering operations

**9. Time Output to Video Refereeing System (VRS)**

1. The central scoring apparatus must provide an electronic time output to the official Video Refereeing System.
2. The time output to the VRS must carry the current match time expressed in hundredths of a second, synchronized with the internal match clock described in this Book (m.42).
3. The time output interface, format, and update rate must comply with the specifications defined in the applicable Materials Homologation Handbook and any technical handbooks for scoring apparatus and video systems.
4. When the match clock is started, stopped, or reset, the corresponding state change must be reflected in the time output to the VRS without undue delay or loss of events, within the tolerances specified in the technical handbooks

**10. Last Ten Seconds Display Behavior**

During the last ten (10) seconds of each period in an individual bout and of each bout in a team match, the official match clock must change its display resolution to provide enhanced time indication.

1. The clock must show time to a tenth of second when the scoring apparatus is running

2. The clock must show time to a hundredth of second when the scoring apparatus is stopped
3. The timer should be provided with a remote start/stop device.

## 11. Clock Extensions for Finals

1. For finals of official FIE competitions, the clock must be equipped with:
    a. A system connecting it to external extension clocks displaying large luminous numbers
    b. A system for connection of the audible signal
2. These connection systems must be electrically isolated from the internal circuits of the apparatus in accordance with the specifications in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The clock and remote control must operate the match clock defined in m.42.

## 12. Referee Remote Control- General Requirements

1. The match clock of the central scoring apparatus must be controlled by a remote control device intended for the Referee.
2. The remote control must provide a single, clearly identifiable control for the combined start–stop function of the match clock; no additional timing or reset functions may be assigned to the remote.
3. The remote control must be equipped with a visible LED indicator that confirms the operational status of the device and each transmitted command.
4. The design of the remote control must minimize the risk of accidental activation, taking into account typical Referee gestures and handling during a bout, as further specified in the applicable technical handbook

## 13. Referee Remote Control- Radio Communication

1. The communication between the Referee's remote control and the match clock must operate via encrypted radio frequencies.
2. The radio protocol, frequency bands, encryption requirements, and coexistence rules with other wireless systems in the venue must comply with the specifications defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook and with all applicable regulatory requirements.
3. The radio link must be sufficiently robust that loss of connection, interference, or low battery conditions cannot cause unintended clock start or stop; any such fault conditions must default to a safe state defined in the technical handbooks

## 14. Audible Signals

1. Visual signals must be accompanied simultaneously by audible signals.
2. The audible signals will consist either of a short ring, or of a continuous note.
3. Duration must be automatically limited to one to two seconds.
4. The sound signal must be identical for both sides of the apparatus.

5. The apparatus may include a device which allows the sound signal to be stopped before the apparatus is reset.

**15. Audible Signal Failsafe**

When the cable connecting the audible-signal apparatus to the clock is disconnected:

1. The audible-signal apparatus must emit a sound of 80–100 decibels measured at the piste center line.
2. Duration must be 2–3 seconds.
3. The central judging apparatus must not be blocked.
4. The clock must not be stopped. (t.32)

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**Proposal 85**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.43**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.43 (old m.43) describes workshop team procedures for checking weapons and equipment, specifying team composition and roles for dimension checks, electrical tests, and marking. The restructured Article m.43 “Foil Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the workshop procedures article with a dedicated foil-specific central judging apparatus article. The workshop procedures from old m.43 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.43 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B foil apparatus specifications and consolidates foil apparatus function, hit registration, visual signals, sensitivity, resistance tolerance, lockout operation, and testing requirements into seven dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the workshop team procedures with a dedicated foil central judging apparatus article
2. Moves workshop checking procedures to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates foil-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit sensitivity, resistance tolerance, lockout operation, and testing sub-sections

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**m.43. Foil Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. To carry out the checks properly and rapidly, ‘workshop’ teams of three people should be used. (At least three such workshops should be provided.)~~

## 1. Foil Apparatus Main Function

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for foil must comply with the following:

1. At foil, the apparatus registers when a break occurs in the circuit of the foil.
2. The electrical current which is circulating permanently in the foil circuit is broken when a hit is made.

## 2. Foil - Registration of Hits ~~2. The first person checks that all the weapons are normal with respect to their dimensions by passing them through a gauge.~~

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus.
2. A hit made on a part of the foil may register if an uninsulated part of the weapon of the fencer is in contact with his conductive jacket.
3. After registering a hit, whether on target or off target, the apparatus must no longer be able to register a subsequent hit on the same side of the apparatus.
4. No priority must be indicated between a hit registered against one competitor and a hit registered against his opponent.

## 3. Foil - Visual Signals ~~3. The second does all electrical tests.~~

1. Hits are registered by light signals:

a. A red signal on one side when a hit is registered on target;

b. A green signal on the other when a hit is registered on target;

c. White signals on either side will indicate hits off the target.

2. At foil, when using the apparatus it should be noted that:

a. If a non-valid hit has been scored, the apparatus will not register a possible valid hit scored on the same side of the apparatus.

b. The apparatus does not indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.

3. Yellow lamps serve only to indicate insulation faults (see m.43.5)

## 4. Foil - Sensitivity and Signal Registration ~~4. The third affixes the checking marks and replaces the weapons in the fencing bag.~~

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus. The duration of the break of contact which must always ensure that a signal is registered is 14 ms ± 1 ms
2. Depending on the increase in the resistance, the apparatus may register:

a. A valid hit only.

b. A valid hit and a non-valid hit simultaneously.

c. A non-valid hit only.

d. The resistance must always be less than 500 ohms for (a) and (b).

3. The contact time is the same for valid and non-valid hits.
4. The registering of a valid hit must be guaranteed when there is a break of contact of 14 ms ± 1 ms, when the exterior resistance is between 0 and 500 ohms.
5. A break of contact of 14 ms ± 1 ms must always ensure that a signal is registered, when the exterior resistance is between 0 and 200 ohms.

## 5. Foil - Resistance Tolerance and Fault Conditions

1. The apparatus must be capable of tolerating an increase in the resistance in the closed circuit of the foils of up to 200 ohms, without causing a non-valid signal to register.
2. Even if the resistance of the foil earth circuit is increased up to 100 ohms, none of the following irregular phenomena must occur:

a. Hits are registered on the guard or on the piste;

b. Hits must not be registered merely by contact of the blade or the pointe arrêt (without depressing it) on the conductive jacket of either competitor.

3. When the blades are in contact, irrespective of the resistance in ohms between them, the apparatus must be capable of registering normally the hits exchanged, valid and non-valid.
4. Even if a fault in the insulation causes a short between a fencer's conductive jacket and weapon, the apparatus must still register both valid and non-valid hits.
5. The apparatus must be equipped with two yellow lamps:

a. The yellow lamp must light up and remain lit when the resistance between a fencer's conductive jacket and weapon is less than 450 ohms

b. The yellow lamp must not light up when this resistance exceeds 475 ohms.

6. If one or both of the yellow lamps remain lit, the Referee must stop the bout and call the technical experts to eliminate the fault.
7. The yellow lamps need not indicate any contact between the fencer's conductive jacket and the conductive piste.

## 6. Foil Lockout Operation

1. After the first hit is signaled, the apparatus must ignore all subsequent signals once the lockout period of 300 ms (± 25 ms) has elapsed.
2. This lockout period is a fixed technical interval unrelated to "fencing time" under the conventions of foil fencing.

## 7. Foil Testing and Authorization

1. Test programs for foil apparatus are defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. The Congress of the FIE has authorized this Committee to modify or add to the above requirements whenever technical improvements allow the construction of apparatus which can ensure the better operation of the electrical foil judging apparatus.

**Proposal 86**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.44**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.44 (old m.44) provides an introduction listing all electrical judging equipment provided by competition organisers, including the central apparatus, spools, conductive piste, power supply, and clock. The restructured Article m.44 “Épée Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the general equipment introduction with a dedicated épée-specific central judging apparatus article. The general equipment listing provisions from old m.44 are now covered under m.40 (General Provisions). The restructured m.44 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B épée apparatus specifications and consolidates épée apparatus function, visual signals, resistance and timing, and lockout operation into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the general equipment introduction with a dedicated épée central judging apparatus article
2. Moves general equipment listing to m.40 (General Provisions)
3. Consolidates épée-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit visual signals, resistance and timing, and lockout operation sub-sections

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~~**PART 2. FITTINGS AND MATERIAL PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISERS**~~

~~**Introduction**~~

**m.44. Épée Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. All electrical judging equipment includes, in addition to the equipment provided by the fencers themselves, the material provided by the organisers of a competition, which is:~~

**1. Épée Apparatus Main Function**

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for épée must comply with the following:

1. At épée, the apparatus registers when contact is established between the wires forming the circuit in the épée, thus completing the circuit.

**2. Épée - Visual Signals** ~~2. The central judging apparatus, with extension lamps (cf. m.51, m.59, Annexe B);~~

1. Visual signals include at least two signal lamps on each side of the apparatus, so designed that if one lamp does not function it does not prevent the other from lighting up nor cause an excessive current through the latter.
2. The signal lamps must give a red signal on one side of the apparatus and a green signal on the other.
3. The apparatus may include lights which indicate short circuits to earth. These must be orange in color.

**3. Épée - Apparatus Resistance and Timing** ~~3. The spools, with cables and connections, or cables suspended overhead (cf. m.55);~~

1. The apparatus must register only the first hit which is made when the active circuit is completed (see m.20 for tip assembly travel requirements).
2. If the interval between two hits is less than 40 ms, the apparatus must register a double hit, with both signal lamps lighting simultaneously.
3. If the interval between two hits is greater than 50 ms, the apparatus must register only one hit.
4. The apparatus must not register hits made on earthed material (guard or conductive piste), even when the resistance of the earth circuit is up to 100 ohms.

**4. Épée - Lockout Operation** ~~4. The conductive piste which neutralises hits made on the ground (cf. m.57);~~

1. When the external resistance is normal, that is 10 ohms, the apparatus must register hits when these are made with a duration of contact of 2–10 ms.
2. With an exceptional external resistance of 100 ohms the apparatus must still register a hit, but without any specific duration of contact.
3. The apparatus must not register signals of less than 2 ms duration.

~~5. The source of electrical current should be 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA (valve-regulated lead-acid) batteries (cf. m.58).~~

~~6. For finals of official competitions of the FIE, a clock which counts down the time and which can be linked to the apparatus which controls the audible signal and the electrical registering of hits (cf. m.51, Annexe B).~~

~~7. The wireless apparatus is optional at the Veteran World Championships.~~

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**Proposal 87**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.45**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.45 (old m.45) describes the authorised designs for electrical scoring apparatus, specifying that only wired apparatus with light signals are permitted, with wireless encoded-wave systems also allowed by the SEMI. The restructured Article m.45 “Sabre Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the authorised designs article with a dedicated sabre-specific central judging apparatus article. The authorised designs provisions from old m.45 are now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.45 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B sabre apparatus specifications and consolidates sabre apparatus function, visual signals, resistance and timing, lockout operation, and timing adjustment into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the authorised designs article with a dedicated sabre central judging apparatus article
2. Moves authorised designs provisions to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates sabre-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit visual signals, resistance and timing, lockout operation, and timing adjustment sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 1. SCORING APPARATUS Authorised designs**~~

**m.45. Sabre Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting the fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorised, except for apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorised by the SEMI. This excludes other apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only.~~

**1. Sabre Apparatus Main Function**

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for sabre must comply with the following:

1. The apparatus works by contact between any uninsulated part of the sabre and the conductive surface of the opposing fencer’s jacket, glove and mask.

**2. Sabre - Visual Signals**

1. For hits made on these valid conductive surfaces, the apparatus shows a red light on one side and a green light on the other.
2. If the guard or blade of a fencer’s sabre is in contact with the conductive surface of his own equipment (signaled by a yellow light), a valid hit made by that fencer must still register.

3. The apparatus must be equipped with two yellow lamps, one on each side, which will indicate a contact between the guard or blade of a fencer's sabre and the conductive surface of his own equipment.
4. The apparatus must be equipped with two white lamps, identical to those on a foil apparatus which, if permanently illuminated, accompanied by a sound signal, indicate any abnormal electrical change in circuits B and C of the fencer at fault.
5. Hits made on non-conductive surfaces must not be signaled.

## 3. Sabre - Apparatus Resistance, Faults, and Timing

1. When the two blades touch, all the other rules should be strictly applied.
2. The apparatus should still function when the blades are in contact, or if there is contact between the blades and the guards, or between the two guards.
3. The apparatus must not signal a hit made by the blade whipping over to hit the opponent while in contact with his blade or guard.
4. After a hit has been registered, a subsequent hit made by the other fencer will only be registered if it occurs within a maximum of 170 ms ± 10 ms.
5. The apparatus should allow an increase in the exterior resistance of the connections up to 100 ohms without any drawbacks.
6. Should a fault in the insulation, down to 0 ohms, cause a leakage of current between a fencer's valid conductive surface and his weapon, the apparatus should still be capable of registering all hits exchanged.
7. The insulation fault will be signaled by the illumination of the yellow lamp on the side of the fencer whose equipment is at fault when the resistance is between 0 and 450 ohms.
8. The registering of a valid hit on the guard or blade of the fencer at fault will be allowed provided that the electrical resistance between the guard or the blade and the valid surface is less than 250 ohms.
9. Should there be a hit made by the whipping over of the blade which has not been signaled, whatever method has been used to prevent the signaling, after 15 ms ± 5 ms from the contact of the blade with the valid target (the time for the registering of the whip) and unless there has been another hit, the apparatus should allow the normal registering of any subsequent hits.
10. A break in the control circuit (defined as more than 250 ohms) for 3 ms ± 2 ms will be signaled by the illumination of the white lamp on the side of the fencer at fault.

## 4. Sabre - Lockout Operation

1. The duration of contact during which a signal should be ensured should be 0.1–1 ms.
2. An apparatus will be rejected if a hit can be registered with a duration of contact of less than 0.1 ms (time subject to modification)
3. If the contact between the blade and the opponent's target takes place 'through the blade', the apparatus:

a. Will register the hit between 0 and 4 ms (+ 1 ms);

b. Will prevent the hit being registered between 4 and 15 ms (+ 5 ms), on condition that the contact between the two blades is not interrupted more than a maximum of 10 times in the interval.

**5. Sabre - Timing Adjustment**

Timing for the apparatus may be varied in the light of experience and of laboratory tests carried out by the SEMI Committee.

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**Proposal 88**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.46**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.46 (old m.46) describes the approval procedure for judging apparatus designs, requiring SEMI Committee approval for World Championship and Olympic Games apparatus, submission of complete apparatus for examination at least six months before competition, and detailed construction drawings. The restructured Article m.46 “Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions” replaces the approval procedure article with a comprehensive apparatus selection article covering all levels of FIE competitions. The approval procedures from old m.46 are consolidated with selection requirements into three dedicated sub-sections covering general selection conditions, World Championship apparatus, and Olympic Games apparatus.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the approval procedure article with a comprehensive apparatus selection article
2. Consolidates apparatus selection requirements for all FIE competition levels
3. Separates World Championship and Olympic Games apparatus requirements into distinct sub-sections
4. Adds explicit provisions for manufacturer selection and equipment homologation

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~~**Approval of designs of apparatus**~~

**m.46. Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions** ~~1. Judging apparatus for use in a World Championship or the Olympic Games must have been approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

**1. Apparatus Selection Conditions**

1. For official FIE competitions, the organizing committee must provide a minimum number of electrical judging apparatuses equal to the number of pistes plus at least two spares.
2. The Organizing Committee must choose a manufacturer who will provide good quality equipment for smooth technical running of competitions.

3. For official FIE competitions, all scoring equipment must be in working order and homologated by the SEMI Committee.
4. As soon as a member federation is selected to organize an official FIE competition, it should contact the President of the SEMI Committee immediately to obtain names of manufacturers whose electrical apparatus is accepted by the Committee for use at their level of competition.

**2. Apparatus for World Championships** ~~2. In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by the said Committee, at a place and on a date to be agreed with the Committee, at least six months before the date of the competition.~~

1. Judging apparatus for World Championships must be approved for use at the World Championship level.
2. List of approved apparatus for World Championship level competitions can be requested from the SEMI.

**3. Apparatus for Olympic Games** ~~3. The apparatus must be accompanied by a detailed drawing showing its construction.~~

1. Judging apparatus for the Olympic Games must be approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.
2. In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by a designated team of the SEMI Committee, at a place and on a date to be agreed with by the Committee, at least six months before the start date of the competition.
3. The apparatus must be accompanied by technical documentation, including but not limited to detailed drawings, CAD files, and be submitted digitally to the SEMI Commission and the FIE Office.

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**Proposal 89**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.47**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.47 (old m.47) states that approval is given for the use of apparatus in one specific official competition only, and that the SEMI Committee is willing to examine prototypes submitted by constructors even outside of imminent official competitions. The restructured Article m.47 “Apparatus Checking Procedures” replaces the competition-specific approval article with a comprehensive apparatus checking procedures article. The competition-specific approval provision from old m.47 is now covered under m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions). The restructured m.47 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.52–m.53 (checking of apparatuses) provisions and consolidates prototype approval procedures and pre-competition testing into two dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the competition-specific approval article with a comprehensive apparatus checking procedures article
2. Moves competition-specific approval provisions to m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions)
3. Consolidates apparatus checking procedures from old m.52–m.53 into a single article
4. Adds explicit prototype approval procedures and pre-competition testing sub-sections

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**m.47. Apparatus Checking Procedures** ~~1. Approval is given for the use of the apparatus in one specific official competition only. The SEMI Committee is willing, as far as it is able, and without charge, to examine prototypes of apparatus submitted by constructors even if the use of such apparatus is not envisaged for an imminent official competition.~~

**1. Prototypes Approval and Procedures**

1. In the case of using a prototype for a World Championships or a FIE competition:
   a. Having chosen the manufacturer, the Organizing Committee must immediately advise the President of the SEMI Committee.
   b. The President contacts the firm to obtain, as soon as possible, a prototype of the desired model.
   c. Control of fencing apparatuses must be done before competition using a checking device able to verify that apparatuses fulfill all requirements related to reaction times and electrical resistances.
2. The report on checking is presented to the manufacturer by the President of the Committee within one month of the apparatus being received.
3. Two possibilities exist:
   a. The proposed apparatus is accepted, in which case other apparatuses can be manufactured like the prototype.
   b. The apparatus does not conform to requirements, in which case it must be modified and re-submitted for new examination.
4. When all apparatuses are ready and before they are sent out, the President of the SEMI Committee must be notified for documentation of checking before they leave the factory.
5. Each apparatus comes with a test report giving specifications concerning:
   a. Registering time in milliseconds
   b. Resistance in ohms of external circuits before registering a non-valid hit
6. The person in charge of verification ticks off every apparatus and makes a note of its number.

**2. Testing and Checking of Apparatus**

1. A specific program of tests for an apparatus under different conditions can be supplied on request by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.
2. A specific program of tests also includes the checking of the functioning of the apparatus including but not limited to timing, lockout, lamp functionality.
3. Before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organizing Committee must check:
   a. Proper working of apparatuses to be used.
   b. That they conform to the type registered. This is independent of the registration of the type of apparatus.
4. The apparatuses must be made available to this delegate at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.

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**Proposal 90**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.48**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.48 (old m.48) specifies that approval is given for only one established design of apparatus conforming to the submitted drawing, not as a general approval for all products by any manufacturer, and that every approved apparatus must carry a metallic identification plate. The restructured Article m.48 “Spools and Cables” replaces the established design and identification article with a dedicated connection systems article. The established design and identification plate provisions from old m.48 are now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.48 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.55 (spool and cable specifications) provisions and consolidates electrical resistance requirements, cable length and safety features, plug specifications, and alternative connection systems into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the established design and identification article with a dedicated spools and cables article
2. Moves established design approval and identification plate provisions to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates spool and cable specifications from old m.55 into a single article
4. Adds explicit resistance requirements, safety features, plug specifications, and alternative systems sub-sections

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## Part 2: Connection Systems

### m.48. Spools and Cables

**1. Electrical Resistance Requirements** ~~1. Approval is given for only one established design of apparatus which conforms to the drawing submitted, and is not given as a general approval for all the products made by any manufacturer. The latter may state in their publicity only the fact that the design of apparatus which they offer for sale has been used at a specific official competition (if this in fact is the case); but they themselves must guarantee that the apparatus conforms to the design for which approval was given.~~

1. The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket, must be 3 ohms + 1 ohm.
2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being rotated at full speed
3. Contact rings of the spool must have double brushes.
4. The wire connected to the earth circuit of the weapon must be connected to the frame of the spool.

**2. Cable Length and Safety Features** ~~2. Every approved apparatus must carry, on its base, a metallic plate identifying its specific characteristics: manufacturer, year of manufacture, model, technical information, etc.~~

1. The spools must allow 20 m of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.
2. The socket which terminates the spool cable and receives the plug of the body wire at the fencer's back must include a safety device which fulfills the following requirements:
   a. It is impossible to use it unless the plug is correctly put in.
   b. It is impossible for it to become separated during the bout.
   c. It is possible for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.

**3. Connecting Cables and Plug Specifications**

1. The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.
2. The plugs used to connect the body wire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spools and to the apparatus must have:
   a. Three pins of 4 mm diameter arranged in a straight line.
   b. Outer pins are spaced 15 mm and 20 mm respectively, from the center pin.
3. The body wire and the connecting cables have plugs; the spool wires and the central electrical apparatus have sockets.

**4. Alternative Connection Systems**

The use of suspended cables instead of spools is permitted, provided that the conditions already mentioned are satisfied.

**Proposal 91**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.49**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.49 (old m.49) states that the approval of an apparatus by the SEMI Committee as well as its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction, or against its use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators. The restructured Article m.49 “Installation Requirements” replaces the approval disclaimer with a dedicated installation requirements article. The disclaimer provision from old m.49 is now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.49 draws its content from the old M Book’s installation and spool placement provisions and consolidates cable length, spool placement, connecting cable construction, and grounding requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the approval disclaimer with a dedicated installation requirements article
2. Moves the approval disclaimer provision to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates installation and spool placement requirements into a single article
4. Adds explicit cable length, spool placement, connecting cable construction, and grounding sub-sections

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**m.49. Installation Requirements** ~~The approval of an apparatus by the SEMI Committee as well as its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction, or against its use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators (cf. m.58).~~

**1. Cable Length**

The organizers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.

**2. Spool Placement**

The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.

**3. Connecting Cable Construction**

1. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three-core type.
2. They must be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.

**4. Grounding the Pistes**

Conductive pistes should be earthed at the center of the piste.

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**Proposal 92**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.50**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.50 (old m.50) states that all expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus. The restructured Article m.50 “Conductive Pistes” replaces the expenses article with a comprehensive conductive pistes article. The expenses provision from old m.50 is now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.50 draws its content from the old M Book’s conductive pistes chapter and consolidates material and resistance, coverage, platform mounting, length and extensions, base construction, piste lines, and safety/testing requirements into seven dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the expenses article with a comprehensive conductive pistes article
2. Moves the expenses provision to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates conductive piste specifications from the old M Book’s Chapter 3 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material, coverage, platform, length, base construction, lines, and safety sub-sections

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## Part 3: Infrastructure Components

**m.50. Conductive Pistes** ~~1. All expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus.~~

**1. Material and Resistance**

1. The conductive piste must be made from metal, metallic mesh, or a substance that is conductive.
2. The piste must maintain conductivity once positioned and ready for fencing.
3. The resistance of the piste, from one end to the other, must not exceed 5 ohms.

**2. Coverage Requirements**

The conductive piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions.

### 3. Platform-Mounted Pistes

1. When the piste is mounted on a platform, the conductive piste must cover the whole width of the platform.
2. The platform must not exceed 50 cm in height.
3. The platform must be wider than the fencing piste itself by at least 25 cm on each side.
4. Each end of the podium must be equipped with a gentle slope right down to ground level.

### 4. Length and Extensions

1. Because the amount of wire which spools can carry is limited, the conductive piste is designed for use on a piste 14 m long.
2. An extension of 1.5–2.0 m is added at each end of the piste to allow the fencer crossing the rear limits to retire on an even and unvarying surface.
3. The conductive piste must have a length of 17–18 m.

### 5. Platform Base Construction

1. The wooden bases are 12–15 cm above ground level.
2. The sides must not be sloping.
3. Must have a metal strip, screwed down if possible, which will keep down the edges of the conductive piste along the entire length of the base on both sides.
4. Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.

### 6. Piste Lines and Indicators

The paint used to draw lines on the conductive piste must not prevent its electrical conductivity.

### 7. Safety, Maintenance and Testing Requirements

1. There must be no roller or any sort of obstacle at the ends of the conductive pistes which could prevent fencers from retreating normally.
2. Pistes used in World Championships and Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organizers to ensure the adherence to electrical specifications described in this Book and in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

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**Proposal 93**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.51**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.51 (old m.51) covers the requirements for all electrical equipment, including hit registration on pistes, apparatus interruption, light signals, foil signal notes, lamp persistence, audible signals, resetting switches, power supply/UPS, clock timing, finals clock equipment with opto-couplers, cable disconnect sound specifications, and UPS backup time. The restructured Article m.51 “Power Supply and Backup” replaces the comprehensive electrical equipment requirements article with a focused power supply and backup article. The hit registration, light signals, audible signals, clock timing, and other apparatus requirements from old m.51 are now covered under m.42 (Core Functional Requirements), m.43–m.45 (weapon-specific apparatus articles), and m.52 (Extension Lamps). The restructured m.51 consolidates the power supply specifications into three dedicated provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the comprehensive electrical equipment requirements with a focused power supply article
2. Moves hit registration, light signals, audible signals, and clock provisions to m.42–m.45 and m.52
3. Consolidates power supply voltage, supply separation, and UPS backup requirements
4. Simplifies from eleven clauses to three focused provisions

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~~**Requirements for all electrical equipment (cf. Annexe B)**~~

### m.51. Power Supply and Backup

1. If the sources of current for each side of the apparatus are separate, it may be 2 × 12 volts or 2 × 6 volts. ~~1. A hit made on the conductive piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus, nor may it prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent. At foil a hit made on a part of the foil may register if an uninsulated part of the weapon of the fencer is in contact with his conductive jacket.~~

2. The separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended. ~~2. The apparatus must not have any device whereby anyone other than the person detailed to supervise it can interrupt its working during a bout.~~

3. For official FIE competitions, the apparatus must be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) with a minimum backup time of 5 minutes at full load. ~~3. Hits are registered by light signals. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be visible to the Referee, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made. It must be possible to attach extension lamps to the exterior of the apparatus, in order to increase the visibility of the signals.At foil, when using the apparatus it should be noted that: a. If a non-valid hit has been scored the apparatus will~~

not register a possible valid hit scored on the same side of the apparatus. b. The apparatus does not indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.

4. Once the signal lamps are alight, they must so remain until the apparatus is reset, without having any tendency to go out or flicker either when subsequent hits are made or if the apparatus is subjected to vibrations.
5. The visual signals must be accompanied by audible signals (cf. Annexe B).
6. The resetting switches must be placed either on top of or on the front part of the apparatus.
7. a) For official competitions of the FIE (cf. t.1) the source of power must always be secured through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) in order not to interrupt the load during the match if any interruption occurs in the normal electricity supply. The wiring of the apparatus to be powered in this way must be designed so that it is impossible for the apparatus to become connected by mistake directly to the mains supply. b) All fencing salles, clubs, etc., and the organisers of training sessions or competitions involving weapons using electrical equipment, may use the current supplied by the mains on condition that they adhere strictly to the technical standards laid down on the subject by their countries and international communities.
8. During the last 10 seconds of each period in an individual bout and of each bout in a team match, the clock must show: the time to a tenth of second when the scoring apparatus is running and to a hundredth of second when the scoring apparatus is stopped. The timer should be provided with a remote start/stop device (see Annex B for technical specifications).
9. For the finals of official competitions of the FIE, the clock must be equipped with a system which connects it to some external extension clocks displaying large luminous numbers, and with another system for the connection of the audible signal. These two connection systems must be separated from the circuits situated inside the central judging apparatus by means of opto-couplers (cf. t.32, m.44).
10. When the cable connecting the audible-signal apparatus to the clock is disconnected, the audible-signal apparatus must emit a sound of between 80 and 100 decibels (measured at the centre line of the piste) lasting between 2 and 3 seconds, but the central judging apparatus must not be blocked and the clock must not be stopped (cf. t.32, m.44, m.51/9).
11. For official FIE competitions (cf. t.1) the apparatus must obligatorily be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) with minimum 5 minutes backup time.

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**Proposal 94**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.52**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.52 (old m.52) covers the number and quality of judging apparatuses, specifying the minimum number of apparatuses for official FIE competitions, the process for contacting the SEMI Committee president, and the requirement to choose an approved manufacturer. The restructured Article m.52 “Extension Lamps” replaces the number and quality of apparatuses article with a comprehensive extension lamps article. The number and quality provisions from old m.52 are now covered under m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions). The restructured m.52 draws its content from the old M Book’s Chapter 5 (Extension Lamps) and consolidates usage requirements, lamp height and placement, colored and white lamp specifications, lamp arrangement, and electrical connection protection into six dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the number and quality of apparatuses article with a comprehensive extension lamps article
2. Moves number and quality provisions to m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions)
3. Consolidates extension lamp specifications from the old M Book’s Chapter 5 into a single article
4. Adds explicit usage, height/placement, colored lamps, white lamps, arrangement, and electrical protection sub-sections

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~~**Number and quality of judging apparatuses**~~

### m.52. Extension Lamps

**1. Usage Requirements** ~~1. For official FIE competitions, the organising committee must provide a minimum number of electrical judging apparatuses equal to the number of pistes plus at least two spares. All the apparatuses must be in perfect working order, and of a type approved for the World Championships.~~

1. Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for official competitions of the FIE.
2. Extension lamps must repeat scoring signals generated by the central apparatus (m.43–m.45).

**2. Lamp Height and Placement** ~~2. As soon as a member federation is selected to organise an official FIE competition, it would do well to contact the President of the SEMI Committee immediately in order to obtain the names of manufacturers whose electrical apparatus is accepted by the Committee.~~

1. The lamps should be placed at a minimum of 1.80 m above the piste.
2. When fencers fence on a 0.5 m high podium, the extension lamps must be 2.30 m above ground.

**3. Colored Lamp Specifications** ~~3. The Organising Committee usually prefers combined apparatus, which can be used for all three weapons. The Organising Committee must choose a~~

~~manufacturer who will provide good quality equipment for the smooth technical running of competitions; this equipment must be approved by the SEMI Committee.~~

1. The extension lamps signaling valid hits are colored: one red, the other green.
2. They must be at a minimum of 2600 lumens.

**4. White Lamp Specifications**

1. The white lights indicating non-valid hits must each provide a luminous flux of at least 1100 lumens.
2. The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm.

**5. Lamp Arrangement**

1. The white and colored extension lamps must be arranged on either side of the apparatus, either horizontally or vertically.
2. They must be visible from all directions.

**6. Electrical Connection Protection**

1. The exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply.
2. If exterior lamps are connected to the main electrical supply, the signals of the recording apparatus must be separated from the circuits of these lamps by phototransistors or by opto-couplers.

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**Proposal 95**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.53**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.53 (old m.53) covers the checking of apparatuses, including the prototype procedure with the SEMI Committee, the checking report timeline, the two possible outcomes (acceptance or resubmission), and the final checking and test report process before shipment. The restructured Article m.53 “External Display Systems” replaces the checking of apparatuses article with a comprehensive external display systems article. The checking of apparatuses provisions from old m.53 are now covered under m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures). The restructured m.53 draws its content from the old M Book’s display board and scoreboard provisions and consolidates display requirements for finals, last-64 onwards, and zonal/World Cup competitions into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the checking of apparatuses article with a comprehensive external display systems article
2. Moves checking of apparatuses provisions to m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures)

3. Consolidates display board and scoreboard requirements from the old M Book into a single article
4. Adds explicit display requirements for finals, last-64 onwards, and zonal championships/World Cups

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~~**Checking of apparatuses**~~

### m.53. External Display Systems

**1. Display Board Requirements for Championship and Grand Prix Finals** ~~1. Having chosen the manufacturer with which it wants to deal, the Organising Committee of a World Championship immediately advises the President of the SEMI Committee of the FIE who in turn contacts this firm to obtain, as soon as possible, a prototype of the desired model. The control of the fencing apparatuses must be done before the competition using a checking device that is able to verify that the fencing apparatuses fulfil all requirements related to reaction times and electrical resistances.~~

For World Championship and Grand Prix finals and Masters, it is obligatory to make use of a display board providing instantaneous information on:

1. Fencers' names
2. Score
3. Time
4. Other matters necessary for good understanding of the bout

**2. Display Requirements — From Last 64 Onwards** ~~2. The report on the checking of the apparatus is always presented to the manufacturer by the President of the Committee within one month of the apparatus being received.~~

1. Starting from the last 64 at World Championships and Grand Prix, it is mandatory to use a central apparatus with:
   a. A large display or couple scoreboard.
   b. Instant information on fencers' names, country, score, time.
   c. The period of a bout or relay of a match.
   d. Any penalty cards.
2. Display information must reproduce match time and scores generated under m.42, and m.43–m.45.

**3. Display Requirements — Zonal Championships and World Cups** ~~3. There are then two possibilities: a. The proposed apparatus is accepted by the Committee, in which case the other apparatuses can be manufactured like the prototype. b. The apparatus does not conform to the requirements, in which case it must be modified and re-submitted to the Committee for a new examination.~~

This central apparatus is optional at Zonal Championships and World Cups.

~~4. When all the apparatuses are ready and before they are sent out, the President of the SEMI Committee must be notified, so that he can document the checking of the apparatuses before they leave the factory. Each apparatus comes with a test report giving the different specifications concerning the registering time in milliseconds and the resistance in ohms of the external circuits before registering a non-valid hit. The person in charge of verification ticks off every apparatus and makes a note of its number.~~

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**Proposal 96**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.54**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.54 (old m.54) states that before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organising Committee must check the proper working of the apparatuses and that they conform to the type registered, and that the apparatuses must be made available at least 48 hours before competition. The restructured Article m.54 “Competence and Authority” replaces the pre-competition checking article with a comprehensive weapons control competence and authority article. The pre-competition checking provisions from old m.54 are now covered under m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures). The restructured m.54 is the first article of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes responsibility, personnel appointment, authority, and competence requirements in four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the pre-competition checking article with a comprehensive competence and authority article
2. Moves pre-competition checking provisions to m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures)
3. Establishes Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) with clear authority and responsibility framework
4. Adds explicit personnel appointment, authority scope, and competence requirement sub-sections

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## Chapter 5: Weapons and Equipment Control

### Part 1: Competence and Scope

### m.54. Competence and Authority

**1. Responsibility for Weapons and Material Control** ~~1. Before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organising Committee must check the proper working of the apparatuses to be used and that they conform to the type registered. This is independent of the registration of the type of apparatus mentioned above (cf. m.52).~~

1. Verification of compliance with the material requirements of this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook is the responsibility of the SEMI Commission or, if the SEMI Commission is not present, then the responsibility is with the Directoire Technique / Supervisor.
2. Only members of the SEMI Commission or the Directoire Technique / Supervisor may require verification of detailed conformity to manufacturing specifications not readily verifiable by standard checking procedures.

**2. Appointment and Authority of SEMI Delegate** ~~2. The apparatuses must be made available to this delegate at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.~~

1. Authority of the SEMI delegate is established in the FIE Statues (see Functions of the Commissions 6.5)
2. Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint three member(s) of the SEMI Commission to be responsible for supervision of electrical equipment and weapons control of the World Championships and for the Olympic Games, including but not limited to:
    a. Checking of the fencers' weapon.
    b. Checking of the fencers' clothing and equipment.
    c. Electrical equipment provided by the organizers.
    d. Approving location of weapons control areas
    e. Checking conformity of Field of Play
3. Other official FIE competitions including but not limited to World Cups, Grand Prix, the FIE will appoint one or more SEMI Commission members to be responsible for supervision of electrical equipment and weapons control, including but not limited to items listed in m.54.2.2

**3. Authority of Weapons Control Personnel**

1. Weapons Control personnel have the authority to:
    a. Examine any weapon or equipment presented for competition use.
    b. Test weapons and equipment using approved checking apparatus.
    c. Approve conforming material by affixing checking marks.
    d. Reject non-conforming material.
    e. Refer irregular or suspicious material to the SEMI representative or Directoire Technique / Supervisor (see m.59–m.60 and m.58).
2. The decisions of Weapons Control personnel regarding material compliance are binding and can be appealed only to the SEMI representative present at the competition. If the SEMI representative is not present, then the Directoire Technique / Supervisor can be appealed to.

**4. Competence Requirements**

1. Weapons Control personnel must be trained in:
    a. The material requirements of this Book.

b. The proper use of checking apparatus and gauges.

c. The identification of non-conforming or irregular material.

d. The procedures for marking and rejecting equipment.

2. Training standards and certification procedures are defined by this Book, the Homologation Handbook, and the FIE.

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**Proposal 97**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.55**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.55 (old m.55) covers the spools, cables and their connections, specifying spool wire resistance (3 ohms), electrical contact continuity with double brushes, 20m cable unwinding, safety device requirements for spool sockets, connecting cable resistance (2.5 ohms), plug specifications (3 pins, 4mm diameter), and the permissibility of suspended cables. The restructured Article m.55 “Scope of Equipment Checking” replaces the spools and cables article with a comprehensive equipment checking scope article. The spools and cables provisions from old m.55 are now covered under m.48 (Spools and Cables). The restructured m.55 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes which equipment is subject to checking, when checking must take place, and fencer obligations in three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the spools and cables article with a comprehensive equipment checking scope article
2. Moves spools and cables provisions to m.48 (Spools and Cables)
3. Establishes clear scope for equipment checking within Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
4. Adds explicit equipment subject to checking, timing, and fencer obligation sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 2. SPOOLS, CABLES AND THEIR CONNECTIONS**~~

**m.55. Scope of Equipment Checking**

**1. Equipment Subject to Checking** ~~1. The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket, must be 3 ohms.~~

1. All weapons and equipment used in competition must be checked for compliance with this Book.
2. Equipment subject to checking includes but not limited to:

a. Weapons and their corresponding parts;

b. Body wires;

c. Conductive jackets;

d. Masks;

e. Protective clothing and equipment (e.g. chest plates, etc.);

f. Gloves;

g. Field of Play equipment;

h. Other equipment (e.g. weights, shims, gabarit, etc.)

i. Any other equipment specified by the Directoire Technique (see Chapters 2 and 3).

**2. Timing of Equipment Checking Times** ~~2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being rotated at full speed. To ensure this the contact rings must have double brushes. The wire connected to the earth circuit of the weapon will be connected to the frame of the spool.~~

Equipment checking must take place:

a. Prior to the start of competition.

b. During the competition when the fencers are required to present themselves officially in the call room in the time period as posted on the colored pistes.

c. At any time during competition at the request of a referee, the Directoire Technique, or a SEMI representative.

d. Following any repair or modification of equipment during competition (see m.56–m.60).

**3. Fencer's Obligation to Present Equipment** ~~3. The spools must allow 20 m of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.~~

1. Each fencer is responsible for ensuring that all equipment they intend to use in competition is presented for checking in accordance with the procedures established by this Book.
2. Failure to present equipment for checking, or use of unchecked equipment, is subject to penalties as specified in the competition rules and in cases of irregular equipment under m.58.

~~4. The socket which terminates the spool cable, and is designed to receive the plug of the bodywire at the fencer's back, must include a safety device which fulfils the following requirements: that it is impossible to use it unless the plug is correctly put in; that it is impossible for it to become separated during the bout; that it is possible for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.~~

~~5. The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.~~

~~6. The plugs used to connect the bodywire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spools and to the apparatus must have three pins of 4 mm diameter arranged in a straight line. The outer pins must be spaced 15 and 20 mm respectively from the centre pin. The bodywire and the connecting cables have plugs, the spool wires and the central electrical apparatus have sockets to them.~~

~~7. The use of suspended cables instead of spools is permitted, provided that the conditions already mentioned are satisfied.~~

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**Proposal 98**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.56**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.56 (old m.56) covers installation requirements for spools and cables, specifying that organisers must ensure spools have 20m cables, spools must be placed close but outside pistes, cables should be three-core rubber-covered, and conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre. The restructured Article m.56 “Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control” replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article. The installation provisions from old m.56 are now covered under m.49 (Installation Requirements). The restructured m.56 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes submission requirements for equipment presentation in one dedicated sub-section.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article
2. Moves installation provisions to m.49 (Installation Requirements)
3. Establishes clear submission requirements for equipment presentation within Chapter 5
4. Adds explicit requirements for equipment assembly, functionality, delegation contacts, and timing

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## Part 2: Presentation and Checking Process

### m.56. Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control

**1. Submission Requirements** ~~1. The organisers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.~~

1. Fencers must present their equipment to the Weapons Control area during the timetable of each official competition.
2. Equipment must be presented in a manner that facilitates efficient checking (see m.55 for scope):
   a. Weapons must be fully assembled and ready for testing.
   b. Electrical components must be functional.
   c. Equipment must be clean and in condition for inspection.

3. Each head of delegation must indicate where they can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to their fencer is being checked.

4. Presentation to weapons control is allowed on the morning of the day before the competition. Presentation to weapons control after 17:00 on the day before each event may result in a refusal.

~~2. The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.~~

~~3. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three core type and be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.~~

~~4. Conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre of the piste.~~

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**Proposal 99**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.56**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.56 (old m.56) covers installation requirements for spools and cables, specifying that organisers must ensure spools have 20m cables, spools must be placed close but outside pistes, cables should be three-core rubber-covered, and conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre. The restructured Article m.56 “Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control” replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article. The installation provisions from old m.56 are now covered under m.49 (Installation Requirements). The restructured m.56 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes submission requirements, submission limits, identification and labeling, collection procedures, and checking process workflow in five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article
2. Moves installation provisions to m.49 (Installation Requirements)
3. Establishes clear submission, limits, identification, collection, and workflow requirements within Chapter 5
4. Adds explicit requirements for equipment assembly, quantity limits, labeling, collection timing, and checking workflow

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**m.56. Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control**

**1. Submission Requirements** ~~1. The organisers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.~~

1. Fencers must present their equipment to the Weapons Control area during the timetable of each official competition.
2. Equipment must be presented in a manner that facilitates efficient checking (see m.55 for scope):
   a. Weapons must be fully assembled and ready for testing.
   b. Electrical components must be functional.
   c. Equipment must be clean and in condition for inspection.
3. Each head of delegation must indicate where they can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to their fencer is being checked.
4. Presentation to weapons control is allowed on the morning of the day before the competition. Presentation to weapons control after 17:00 on the day before each event may result in a refusal.

**2. Submission Limits and Provisions** ~~2. The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.~~

1. Quantity limits are established to ensure efficient processing of equipment and equitable access to checking services.
2. Maximum number of items that may be presented for checking, include:
   a. Maximum number of four (4) weapons per fencer;
   b. Maximum number of three (3) body wires per fencer;
   c. Maximum number of two (2) conductive jackets per fencer;
   d. Maximum number of two (2) masks per fencer;
   e. Maximum number of three (3) mask-to-jacket leads per fencer.
3. For foil weapons only, weapons must be submitted with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm.

**3. Identification and Labeling** ~~3. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three core type and be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.~~

1. Fencers must provide identification for all equipment submitted for checking.
2. The Weapons Control area may require:
   a. Equipment to be placed in labeled bags or containers.
   b. Contact information for the fencer or their delegation.
   c. Indication of the fencer's weapon and competition events.
3. The Weapons Control area is responsible for maintaining organization and security of equipment during the checking process.

**4. Collection of Checked Equipment** ~~4. Conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre of the piste.~~

1. Fencers or their designated representatives must collect checked equipment in accordance with the timetable of each official competition of the FIE.
2. The Weapons Control area may establish specific times for collection to facilitate efficient operations.
3. Optimally, submitted equipment should be available for collection at the end of the same day of submission.
4. The fencer or the team captain can only insist on the return of the equipment which has been checked one hour before the start of the event.

**5. Checking Process Workflow**

1. Equipment is checked in the order in which they arrive or by an order as directed by the SEMI delegate.
2. Equipment checking typically follows this workflow:
   a. Submission: Fencer presents equipment at the Checking Area.
   b. Inspection: Weapons Control personnel examine and test equipment.
   c. Decision: Equipment is approved (marked) or rejected.
   d. Return — Approved: Approved equipment is processed in accordance with m.59 and equipment is returned to the fencer.
   e. Return — Non-conforming: Non-conforming is handled in accordance under m.60.

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**Proposal 100**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**
**Article m.57**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.57 (old m.57) covers conductive pistes, specifying material and resistance requirements, coverage, platform mounting, piste length and extensions, base construction, piste lines, repair equipment, safety obstacles, and pre-competition testing. The restructured Article m.57 “Weapon Length Measurement” replaces the conductive pistes article with a dedicated weapon length measurement article. The conductive piste provisions from old m.57 are now covered under m.50 (Conductive Pistes). The restructured m.57 consolidates all weapon length measurement procedures — total weapon length, blade length, applicable maximums, measuring devices, reading tolerances, ambiguous readings, and non-conforming consequences — into seven focused provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the conductive pistes article with a dedicated weapon length measurement article

2. Moves conductive piste provisions to m.50 (Conductive Pistes)
3. Consolidates measurement procedures that were previously scattered across weapon-specific articles
4. Adds explicit measurement device requirements, reading tolerances, and ambiguity procedures

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~~CHAPTER 3. CONDUCTIVE PISTES~~

## m.57. Weapon Length Measurement

1. Total weapon length must be measured between Plane A and Plane E in accordance with m.4. ~~1. The conductive piste must be made from metal, metallic mesh or some substance that is conductive. The resistance of the piste, from one end to the other, must not exceed 5 ohms.~~

2. Blade length and any other dimensional distances must be measured between the relevant planes as defined in m.4. . ~~2. The conductive piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions, in order to neutralise floor hits.~~

3. The applicable maximum lengths for each weapon are defined in the weapon-specific articles of this Book, including but not limited to m.6 (foil), m.14–m.15 (épée), and m.23 (sabre). ~~3. a) When the piste is mounted on a platform the conductive piste must cover the whole width of the platform. b) The platform must not exceed 50 cm in height, and must be wider than the fencing piste itself by at least 25 cm on each side. Each end of the podium must be equipped with a gentle slope right down to ground level.~~

4. Weapons Control must use a rigid measuring device and must align the weapon along the axis of the blade for measurement. ~~4. Because the amount of wire which the spools can carry is limited, the conductive piste is designed for use on a piste 14 m long; an extension of 1.50–2 m is added at each end of the piste to allow the fencer crossing the rear limits of the piste to retire on an even and unvarying surface. The conductive piste must therefore have a length of 17–18 m.~~

5. Measurements are read to the nearest millimeter. Because of normal reading and alignment uncertainty with such devices, small apparent overruns up to 2 mm may occur without providing any significant advantage or affecting safety. ~~5. a) The wooden bases are 12–15 cm above ground level. Their sides must not be sloping. b) Must have a metal strip, screwed down if possible, which will keep down the edges of the conductive piste along the entire length of the base on both sides. c) Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.~~

6. In cases where the reading is ambiguous because of parallax, alignment, or blade curvature during measurement, Weapons Control must repeat the measurement. ~~6. The paint used to draw the lines on the conductive piste must not prevent its electrical conductibility, so that a hit made on it at a point where a line occurs is also neutralised.~~

7. Interpretation and consequences of non-conforming length measurements are in m.59–m.60. ~~7. The organisers must have equipment for the immediate repair of the piste available on the spot.~~

~~8. There must be no roller or any sort of obstacle at the ends of the conductive pistes which could prevent the fencers from retreating normally.~~

~~9. Pistes used in the World Championships and in the Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organisers using the apposite device.~~

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**Proposal 101**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.58**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.58 (old m.58) covers the source of electrical current, specifying 12 volt supply requirements, warning lights, battery/voltmeter equipment, and UPS backup time. The restructured Article m.58 “Irregular Equipment and Penalties” replaces the source of electrical current article with a comprehensive irregular equipment and penalties article. The power supply provisions from old m.58 are now covered under m.51 (Power Supply and Backup). The restructured m.58 draws its content from various enforcement-related provisions in the old M Book and consolidates detection, examination and evidence, penalties, and reporting into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the source of electrical current article with a comprehensive irregular equipment article
2. Moves power supply provisions to m.51 (Power Supply and Backup)
3. Consolidates irregular equipment procedures that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit detection, examination, penalties, and reporting sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 4. SOURCE OF ELECTRICAL CURRENT**~~

## m.58. Irregular Equipment and Penalties

**1. Detection of Irregular Equipment** ~~1. The apparatus must be based on a 12 volt supply (± 5%) or, if the sources of current for each side of the apparatus are separate, on 2 x 12 volts or 2 x 6 volts. (The separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended because it can simplify a number of problems met in the construction of apparatus for foil.)~~

1. If material or equipment presented to the Weapons Control area appears to have been assembled in such a way that the fencer can control at will the registering of hits or the malfunctioning of the judging apparatus, the equipment must be referred to the SEMI representative or Directoire Technique.
2. Irregular equipment includes, but is not limited to:
   a. Equipment with concealed switches, contacts, or circuits.
   b. Equipment with components designed to circumvent the rules.
   c. Equipment modified to allow manipulation of electrical circuits during fencing.
   d. Equipment that does not conform to approved designs or specifications.

**2. Examination and Evidence** ~~2. The apparatus may include warning lights to indicate that it is switched on. Such lights should be colourless.~~

1. The SEMI representative or Directoire Technique must examine irregular equipment to determine:
   a. The nature and extent of the irregularity.
   b. Whether the irregularity constitutes intentional rule violation.
   c. The identity of the person who submitted the equipment.
2. Irregular equipment may be retained as evidence and may be subject to detailed examination or testing.

**3. Penalties for Irregular Equipment** ~~.3. If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment. However, the apparatus must always be equipped with a socket, to allow it to be powered either by 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.~~

1. After examination of irregular items, the SEMI representative may require a penalty against the person who submitted them.
2. Penalties are imposed in accordance with the disciplinary procedures set out in the competition rules and may trigger homologation review under m.68–m.73.
3. The severity of penalties may depend on:
   a. The nature and extent of the irregularity.
   b. Whether the irregularity appears intentional.
   c. Whether similar irregularities have been detected previously.

**4. Reporting and Documentation** ~~4. Generally, if the apparatus is powered by batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply), the minimum backup time for the external batteries or UPS is 5 minutes.~~

1. All instances of irregular equipment must be documented and reported to the FIE.
2. Documentation must include:
   a. Description of the irregularity.
   b. Photographs or physical evidence where appropriate.
   c. Identity of the person who submitted the equipment.
   d. Penalties imposed or recommended.
3. Irregular equipment may also be subjected to homologation review under m.68–m.73 where applicable.

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**Proposal 102**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.59**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.59 (old m.59) covers extension lamps, specifying that extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for official FIE competitions, lamp placement height, valid hit lamp color and luminosity requirements, non-valid hit lamp specifications, and lamp arrangement. The restructured Article m.59 “Marking of Approved Material” replaces the extension lamps article with a comprehensive marking of approved material article. The extension lamp provisions from old m.59 are now covered under m.52 (Extension Lamps). The restructured m.59 consolidates checking mark requirements, types, application, validity, and referee verification into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the extension lamps article with a comprehensive marking of approved material article
2. Moves extension lamp provisions to m.52 (Extension Lamps)
3. Consolidates checking mark provisions that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit requirements, types, application, validity, and referee verification sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 5. EXTENSION LAMPS**~~

**Part 3: Marking and Post-check Handling**

**m.59. Marking of Approved Material**

**1. Requirements for Checking Marks** ~~1. a) Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for the official competitions of the FIE. b) The lamps should be placed at a minimum of 1.80 m above the piste. (When the fencers fence on a 0.50 m high podium, the extension lamps must be 2.30 m above ground.) c) The extension lamps signalling valid hits are coloured, one red, the other green, and they must be of 2600 lumens minimum.~~

1. Equipment that is checked and approved for use in competition must be distinctively marked to indicate that it has passed inspection.
2. Only equipment bearing valid checking marks may be used in competition (see m.55).
3. Use of equipment that does not bear valid checking marks is subject to penalties as specified in the competition rules and may constitute a breach of m.2.

**2. Types of Checking Marks** ~~2. a) The white lights indicating non-valid hits need be of only 1100 lumens. b) The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm.~~

1. Checking marks may include: a. Adhesive labels affixed to weapons or equipment. b. Special ink or paint applied to weapons (guards, blades, points). c. Stamps affixed to conductive jackets. d. Electronic tags or other identification methods approved by the FIE.
2. Checking marks must be: a. Distinctive and difficult to counterfeit. b. Durable enough to remain intact throughout the competition. c. Visible to referees and control personnel.

**3. Application of Checking Marks** ~~3. The white and coloured extension lamps must be arranged on either side of the apparatus, either horizontally or vertically, and must be visible from all directions (cf. Annexe B, paragraph A.1.(a).2).~~

1. Checking marks are applied by Weapons Control personnel after equipment has been verified to conform to this Book.
2. The location and method of applying the checking marks is determined by the SEMI representative and must be consistent throughout the competition.

**4. Validity of Checking Marks**

1. Checking marks are valid only for the competition for which they were issued (see m.56 for presentation and m.60 for re-checking).
2. Checking marks from previous competitions are not valid and must be removed before new checking marks are applied.
3. Equipment that has been repaired, modified, or altered after checking must be re-checked and re-marked before it may be used.

**5. Verification by Referees**

Referees are responsible for verifying that all equipment used in bouts under their supervision bears valid checking marks.

**Proposal 103**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.60**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.60 (old m.60) covers the second part of extension lamps, specifying that exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply with phototransistor or opto-coupler separation, and the mandatory use of display boards for World Championship and Grand Prix finals providing information on fencers' names, scores, time, and other details. The restructured Article m.60 "Handling of Rejected or Repaired Equipment" replaces the extension lamps/display board article with a comprehensive rejected and repaired equipment handling article. The display board and exterior lamp provisions from old m.60 are now covered under m.52 (Extension Lamps) and m.53 (Scoreboards and Display Systems). The restructured m.60 consolidates rejection categories, communication of rejection reasons, repair procedures, and re-checking requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the extension lamps/display board article with a comprehensive rejected equipment handling article
2. Moves display board and exterior lamp provisions to m.52 (Extension Lamps) and m.53 (Scoreboards and Display Systems)
3. Consolidates equipment rejection and repair procedures that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit rejection categories, communication, repair, and re-checking sub-sections

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**m.60. Handling of Rejected or Repaired Equipment**

**1. Rejection of Non-Conforming Equipment** ~~1. The exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply, but in this case the signals of the recording apparatus have to be separated from the circuits of these lamps by phototransistors or by opto-couplers.~~

1. Non-conforming equipment identified at Weapons Control falls into two categories: a. Repairable equipment, which does not meet one or more requirements of this Book but can be brought into conformity by repair or adjustment. b. Unsafe equipment, which presents a clear safety risk (for example, masks with damaged mesh or holes in vital areas, broken blades, or torn protective clothing exposing vital areas) must not be returned to service.
2. Repairable equipment may be returned to the fencer for repair in accordance with m.60.3–m.60.7.
3. Unsafe equipment (as defined in m.2, m.27, and m.28) may be confiscated or rendered visibly unusable by Weapons Control or by the Referee in the presence of the person who

presented the equipment to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned, and must not be returned to service in the competition.

4. Rejected equipment that is unsafe must be distinctively marked to indicate that it may not be used in competition (see m.2).
5. Rejection marks for conductive jackets must be paint or ink of a distinctive color.
6. Rejection marks must be marked by a member of the SEMI Commission, if available, or by the weapons checking personnel.

**2. Communication of Rejection Reasons** ~~.2.For World Championship and Grand Prix finals and Masters, it is obligatory to make use of a display board of the type shown in the drawing in Annexe C, providing instantaneous information on the fencers' names, the score, the time and other matters necessary for a good understanding of the bout. Starting from the last 64 at World Championships and Grand Prix, it is mandatory to use a central apparatus with a large display or a couple scoreboard that provides instant information on the fencers' names, country, score, time, the period of a bout or the relay of a match and any penalty cards. This central apparatus is optional at Zonal Championships and World Cups.~~

When equipment is rejected, Weapons Control personnel must inform the fencer or their representative of (see m.2, m.56, and Chapter 2–3):

1. The specific reason(s) for rejection.
2. The requirements that must be met for approval.
3. The procedures for repair and re-checking.

**3. Repair of Rejected Equipment**

1. Rejected equipment may be repaired during the competition if repair facilities are available.
2. Repairs must bring equipment into full conformity with this Book.

**4. Re-Checking of Repaired Equipment**

1. Repaired equipment must be re-submitted to the Checking Area for checking if intended for use in the competition (see m.56).
2. Re-checking of repaired equipment will be carried out only after the initial round of checking of all fencers' equipment has been completed.
3. Repaired equipment that passes re-checking must be marked with valid checking marks.

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**Proposal 104**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.61**

**Motivation:** Article m.61 “Organizers’ Obligations for Checking Resources” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book addressed organizer obligations only briefly and scattered across multiple chapters (old m.42, m.54, m.56). The new article consolidates and significantly expands these requirements into a single comprehensive article covering general obligations, required checking apparatus (gauges, flexibility testing, mask resistance, electrical testing, spring pressure weights, tip travel gauges, checking marks, and additional apparatus for major competitions), conductive jacket checking and stamping, marking materials, facilities and workspace, and gauge approval, calibration and maintenance.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for organizers’ checking resource obligations
2. Consolidates scattered provisions from old m.42, m.54, and m.56 into one location
3. Adds detailed apparatus lists including gauges, testing devices, weights, and marking materials
4. Introduces explicit facility, workspace, calibration, and maintenance requirements

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## Part 4: Equipment Checking Resources and Infrastructure

## m.61. Organizers’ Obligations for Checking Resources

### 1. General Obligation

1. The Organizing Committee of the competition must provide the equipment, personnel, and facilities necessary to carry out weapons and equipment checking in accordance with this Book.
2. The scope and scale of checking resources must be appropriate to the size and level of the competition (see m.54–m.56).

### 2. Required Checking Apparatus

The Organizing Committee must provide the FIE technical delegates responsible for checking with at least the following apparatus:

#### 1. Gauges for Dimensions

Two or more gauges of:

a. Blade lengths (foil, épée, sabre).

b. Guard diameters and depths (all weapons).

c. Handle lengths.

d. Other dimensional requirements specified in Chapters 1–3.

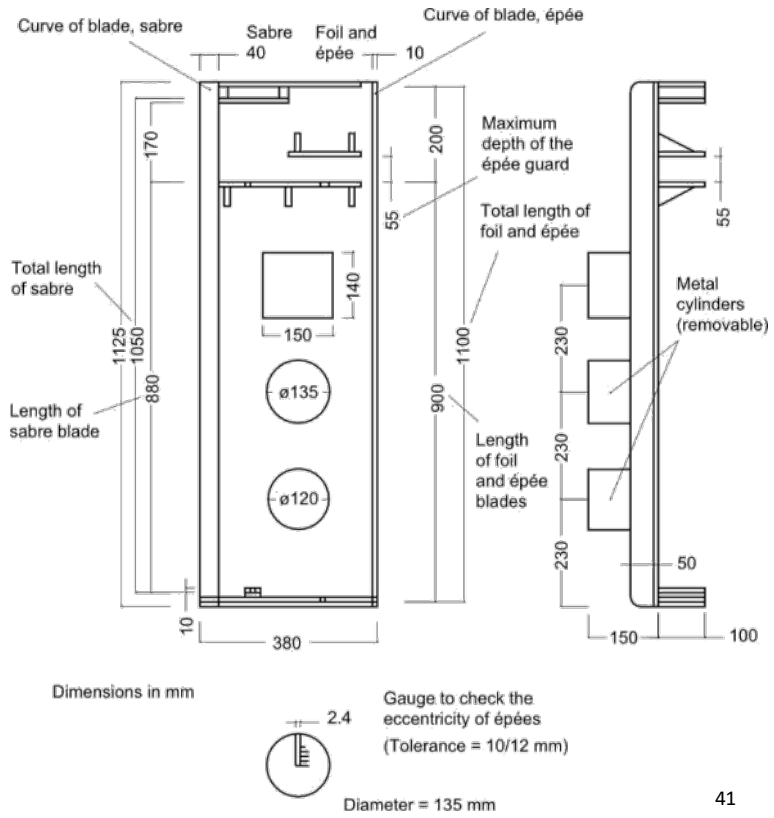



**Figure 28: Example of Testing Gauge - Gabarit**

## 2. Flexibility Testing Devices

Devices for measuring the flexibility of blades at foil, épée, and sabre in accordance with the test procedures specified in Chapter 2.

## 3. Mask Resistance Testing Devices

Devices for testing the resistance of mask mesh to deformation in accordance with the standards specified in Chapter 3.

## 4. Electrical Testing Apparatus

Electrical checking devices capable of quickly verifying:

a. Electrical resistance of body wires.

b. Correct assembly of body wires and weapons.

c. Resistance of conductive jackets.

d. Functionality of tip assemblies.

e. Continuity of electrical circuits.

### 5. Spring Pressure Testing Weights

a. Weights of 500 g (±2 g tolerance) for testing foil tip springs (see m.10).

b. Weights of 750 g (±3 g tolerance) for testing épée tip springs (see m.20).

c. Weights must be provided:

i. At all locations that conduct official weapons control.

ii. At each piste during competition.

### 6. Tip Travel Gauges

a. Devices allowing accurate measurement of (see m.10, m.20 and m.57):

i. Travel tolerance (épée).

ii. Residual travel (épée).

iii. Total travel (foil and épée).

b. Gauges must be provided both:

i. At all locations that conduct official weapons control.

ii. At each piste during competition.

### 7. Checking Marks and Labels

Sufficient quantities of:

a. Adhesive labels for approved equipment.

b. Adhesive labels for rejected equipment.

c. Special ink or paint for marking weapons.

d. Stamps for marking conductive jackets.

e. Any other marking materials specified by the Directoire Technique and/or the SEMI.

### 8. Additional Apparatus for Major Competitions

At World Championships and Olympic Games:

a. Additional testing equipment may be required by the FIE.

b. Additional testing equipment must be reviewed and approved by a group that consists of at least the SEMI President or their designee and the FIE Executive Committee Representative of the SEMI or their designee and one additional SEMI Commission member.

## 3. Conductive Jacket Checking and Stamping

1. The Organizing Committee must provide a special stamp to be affixed to each conductive jacket after its electrical resistance has been verified.
2. The checking stamp on a conductive jacket indicates that resistance has been tested (see m.30 and m.59) but does not constitute final approval for use.
3. The referee makes the final decision on whether a conductive jacket may be used.
4. The referee must verify before each bout that:

a. The conductive jacket bears a valid checking stamp, AND

b. The conductive jacket entirely covers the valid target area;

c. The jacket is in good condition with no holes or defects.

**4. Marking Materials for Weapons**

Special ink or paint must be provided to mark the guards, blades, and points of weapons that have been checked and approved.

**5. Facilities, Equipment, and Workspace**

1. The Organizing Committee must provide adequate facilities for weapons checking, including (see m.56 and m.62):
    a. Sufficient workspace for checking teams to operate efficiently.
    b. Adequate lighting for inspection of equipment.
    c. Secure storage for equipment awaiting checking or collection.
    d. Separate areas for checking stations and repair workshops (if provided).
    e. Access to electrical power for testing apparatus.
2. The organizers must make available equipment for immediate repair of the piste.

**6. Approval, Calibration and Maintenance of Gauges**

1. All checking apparatus must be calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and FIE standards.
2. The Directoire Technique and/or the SEMI, if applicable, may verify calibration of checking apparatus before or during the competition.
3. The checking gauge as specified in Figure 28 (the Gabarit) requires shop-drawings (e.g. CAD drawings, etc.) showing measurements and tolerances to be submitted and approved by the SEMI Commission prior to manufacture.

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**Proposal 105**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.62**

**Motivation:** Article m.62 "Weapons Control Staffing and Organization" is an entirely new provision. The old M Book contained only a brief mention of workshop teams (old m.42) without detailed staffing composition, station requirements, workflow procedures, or coordination protocols. The new article provides a comprehensive framework for weapons control operations covering staffing composition and assigned roles, number of checking stations, workflow through weapons control (dimensional checking, electrical testing, marking and return), coordination and supervision, and communication with fencers.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for weapons control staffing and organizational structure
2. Defines specific team roles (dimensional, electrical, marking, operations management)
3. Establishes station requirements based on competition size
4. Introduces detailed workflow, supervision, and fencer communication procedures

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## m.62. Weapons Control Staffing and Organization

### 1. Weapons Control Staffing Composition

1. To carry out checking properly and efficiently, the Weapons Check can be organized into teams.
2. Each team should consist of a minimum of four leads with assigned roles: a. First person: Checks weapons for dimensional conformity by passing them through gauges and conducting visual inspection. b. Second person: Conducts all electrical tests (body wires, weapons, conductive jackets). c. Third person: Affixes checking marks to approved equipment and returns equipment to fencers' bags or storage. d. Fourth person: Manages the operations and flow of the checking operations.

### 2. Number of Stations

1. The number of checking stations must be appropriate to the size of the competition.
2. For major competitions, a minimum of three stations should be provided to ensure efficient processing of equipment.
3. The number of checking stations required is based on: a. Number of fencers; b. Amount of equipment to be checked; c. Time available for checking; d. Competition schedule.

### 3. Workflow Through Weapons Control

1. Equipment should flow through each station:
2. Dimensional Checking (as required by m.4, m.6, m.14, m.23, and m.57): a. Visual inspection of weapons. b. Gauge testing for length, diameter, depth (see m.4, m.6, m.14, m.23 and m.57). c. Flexibility testing of blades. d. Identification of obvious defects.
3. Electrical Testing (as required by m.9, m.10, m.20, m.26 and Chapter 4): a. Body wire resistance and continuity testing. b. Weapon electrical circuit testing. c. Conductive jacket resistance testing. d. Tip assembly pressure and travel testing.
4. Marking and Return: a. Application of checking marks to approved equipment (see m.59). b. Application of rejection marks to non-conforming equipment (see m.60). c. Recording of checked equipment. d. Return of equipment to storage or fencer. e. Equipment that fails at any station must be removed from the workflow and handled in accordance with m.60.

## 4. Coordination and Supervision

1. The SEMI representative supervises the operation of checking stations:
2. Supervision includes: a. Ensuring consistent application of checking standards; b. Resolving questions or disputes regarding conformity; c. Managing workflow and queue priorities; d. Addressing irregular equipment in accordance with m.60.

## 5. Communication with Fencers

The Weapons Control should establish clear procedures for:

a. Informing fencers of checking schedules;

b. Notifying fencers when equipment is ready for collection;

c. Explaining rejection reasons;

d. Providing information about repair and re-checking procedures.

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**Proposal 106**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.63**

**Motivation:** Article m.63 “Electrical Judging Equipment Provided by Organizers” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book listed organizer-provided electrical equipment within the general checking article (old m.42) without a dedicated scope or conflict-resolution clause. The new article creates a clear overview of the electrical judging system components that organizers must provide, references Chapter 4 for detailed specifications, and establishes a conflict-resolution rule where Chapter 4 prevails.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated overview article for organizer-provided electrical judging equipment
2. Lists the full scope of required equipment (central apparatus, spools, pistes, power, clock systems)
3. Establishes Chapter 4 as the prevailing authority for detailed specifications
4. Adds explicit provision for wireless apparatus at Veterans World Championships

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## Part 5: Overview of Organizer’s Electrical Equipment

## m.63. Electrical Judging Equipment Provided by Organizers

### 1. Scope of Organizer-Provided Equipment

1. The electrical judging system for competition includes equipment provided by the Organizing Committee which consists of, but not limited to: a. The central judging

apparatus with extension lamps. b. Spools with cables and connections, or cables suspended overhead. c. The conductive piste(s). d. The source of electrical current. e. For finals of official FIE competitions: a clock linked to the apparatus controlling the audible signal and electrical registering of hits (see Chapter 4).

2. Detailed specifications for equipment (central judging apparatus — wired and wireless, spools, cables, connectors, piste(s), power source, clock and timing systems, and prohibited equipment) are set out in Chapter 4.
3. Where conflicts arise between this article and Chapter 4, the provisions of Chapter 4 prevail.
4. Wireless apparatus is optional at the Veterans World Championships.

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**Proposal 107**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.64**

**Motivation:** Article m.64 “Purpose and Principles” is the opening article of new Chapter 6 (Homologation of Fencing Equipment and Materials). The old M Book addressed homologation primarily in Annexe A with introductory text, field of application, and process descriptions mixed together. The new article establishes clear foundational principles: mandatory homologation for FIE-logo equipment, the role of the SEMI Commission under COMEX supervision, the certificate issuance process, and the prohibition on production before homologation completion.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated opening article for the new Homologation chapter
2. Establishes the mandatory nature of homologation for all FIE-logo equipment
3. Clarifies SEMI Commission authority under COMEX supervision
4. Codifies the prohibition on production before certificate issuance

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## Chapter 6: Homologation of Fencing Equipment and Materials

### m.64. Purpose and Principles

1. Fencing material used in official FIE competitions and carrying the FIE logo must, without exception, have obtained a valid FIE homologation certificate confirming that the specific item of material complies with all applicable FIE Rules including the competition requirements (Chapters 2–5).
2. The homologation procedure is carried out by the FIE SEMI Commission under the supervision of a representative of the FIE Executive Committee (COMEX) (m.65).

3. A homologation certificate is issued only after the equipment has successfully passed the complete homologation process described in this Chapter and in the relevant technical handbooks.
4. Manufacturers must wait for the homologation process to be completed, the result to be published and the certificate to be issued before beginning production and/or commercialization of equipment bearing the FIE logo, marks and label (m.70).

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**Proposal 108**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.65**

**Motivation:** Article m.65 “SEMI Commission and Expert Involvement” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book mentioned the SEMI Commission’s composition briefly in Annexe A but did not enumerate its specific responsibilities or formalize expert involvement requirements. The new article defines six core SEMI Commission responsibilities and establishes mandatory involvement of Rules Commission delegates for software homologation and Refereeing Commission delegates for video-refereeing systems.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article defining SEMI Commission responsibilities for homologation
2. Enumerates six specific responsibilities from application review to penalty recommendation
3. Formalizes external expert consultation authority
4. Mandates Rules Commission and Refereeing Commission delegates for software and video systems

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## m.65. SEMI Commission and Expert Involvement

### 1. SEMI Commission Responsibilities

1. Review and approval of homologation applications.
2. Oversight of laboratory testing and certification.
3. Maintenance of approved equipment lists.
4. Quality control and random testing.
5. Investigation of non-conforming equipment.
6. Recommendation of penalties for violations.

### 2. Expert Involvement

1. When necessary, the SEMI Commission may consult external experts from relevant technical fields in order to ensure the quality and reliability of the homologation process.
2. For software homologation, the presence of a delegate from the Rules Commission is mandatory.
3. For video-refereeing systems, the presence of a delegate from the Refereeing Commission is mandatory.

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**Proposal 109**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.66**

**Motivation:** Article m.66 “Equipment for Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book’s Annexe A contained a brief “field of application” paragraph listing equipment categories in running text. The new article provides a structured enumeration of all equipment categories requiring compulsory homologation (blades, points, protective clothing, masks and gloves, scoring apparatus, pistes, video-refereeing systems, and competition management software), with an explicit extensibility clause and a distinction for traditional pointes d’arrêt.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article enumerating equipment categories requiring homologation
2. Provides a structured list replacing the old running-text description
3. Adds an explicit extensibility clause for the FIE Executive Committee
4. Distinguishes traditional pointes d’arrêt from designs requiring separate homologation

---

## m.66. Equipment for Homologation

1. Homologation is compulsory for at least the following categories of equipment: a. Blades. b. Points (foil and épée). (m.66.4) c. Protective clothing (jackets, breeches, under-plastrons). d. Masks and gloves. e. Fencing scoring apparatus (wired and wireless). f. Conductive pistes. g. Video-refereeing systems. h. Competition management software.
2. This list is not exhaustive. The FIE Executive Committee may extend the list of equipment requiring homologation at any time.
3. Homologated equipment must also comply with the competition-side obligations in this Book.
4. Traditional pointes d’arrêt of standard design are accepted for use in FIE competitions without requiring separate homologation. All other pointe d’arrêt designs require homologation under this Chapter.

**Proposal 110**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.67**

**Motivation:** Article m.67 “Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book’s Annexe A described the homologation process in eight numbered steps mixing procedural details with administrative requirements. The new article restructures this into five clear sub-sections: Process (referencing the Materials Homologation Handbook), Laboratory (approved institutes), Provisional Homologation (competition testing), Final Analysis and Issuing of the Certificate, and Publication of homologation decisions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for the homologation process and certificate issuance
2. References the Materials Homologation Handbook for detailed procedural steps
3. Establishes provisional homologation for competition-condition evaluation
4. Formalizes certificate issuance requirements (physical or digital) and publication on the FIE website

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## m.67. Homologation

### 1. Process

The request for homologation must follow the process detailed in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

### 2. Laboratory

The list of specialized institutes and/or laboratories approved by the SEMI Commission is updated regularly and communicated to the Executive Committee.

### 3. Provisional Homologation

1. For equipment that must be evaluated under competition conditions, the SEMI Commission may grant a provisional homologation limited to use at one specific competition.
2. The competition used for such testing is agreed between the SEMI President, the representative of the Executive Committee, the supplier, and the organizer of the selected competition.

## 4. Final Analysis and Issuing of the Certificate

1. Every member of the SEMI Commission must receive the full documentation.
2. Full homologation documentation is not made publicly available.
3. Only the President or their designee may issue the FIE Certificate.
4. The FIE Certificate must either be issued physically with the signature of the SEMI President or their designee or use software that provides a digital certificate.

## 5. Publication

1. Final homologation decisions are published on the FIE website.
2. CE/EC certificates and test reports are issued by specialized institutes; the SEMI Commission maintains and publishes lists of equipment that has obtained FIE homologation, together with the corresponding certificates.

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**Proposal 111**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.68**

**Motivation:** Article m.68 “Homologation Modification Management” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain explicit rules governing modifications to homologated equipment or the consequences of unreported changes. The new article establishes that homologation remains valid for the duration specified in certificates provided no modification is made, requires immediate reporting of safety- or performance-affecting modifications to the SEMI President, mandates full re-homologation for modified equipment, and defines the scope of modifications (external appearance, composition, internal structure, software/firmware, and manufacturing process).

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for managing modifications to homologated equipment
2. Establishes validity duration tied to certificates and technical handbooks
3. Requires immediate notification of modifications affecting safety or performance
4. Defines a comprehensive scope of what constitutes a modification requiring re-homologation

---

## m.68. Homologation Modification Management

1. Homologation remains valid for the duration specified in the issued certificates and relevant technical handbooks, provided that no modification is made to the equipment or to its manufacturing process (see Materials Handbook).

2. Any modification to homologated equipment that affects the safety or performance of the original equipment must be reported immediately to the President of the SEMI Commission. a. Modified equipment must undergo the full homologation process again. b. Modifications include any change affecting: i. External appearance. ii. Composition or materials. iii. Internal structure or content. iv. Software, firmware, or embedded logic. v. Manufacturing process or any other element relevant to safety or performance.

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**Proposal 112**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.69**

**Motivation:** Article m.69 “Technical Handbooks” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book referenced technical requirements within the body of the rules themselves and in Annexe A without a formal framework for standalone technical handbooks. The new article establishes that technical handbooks are drawn up by the SEMI Commission and approved by the Executive Committee, defines their content (detailed technical requirements, test methods and acceptance criteria, validity periods), and cross-references them throughout the Book.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article formalizing the role of technical handbooks in the rules framework
2. Establishes SEMI Commission authorship with Executive Committee approval
3. Defines required handbook content: technical requirements, test methods, and validity periods
4. Provides cross-references to the relevant chapters of this Book

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### m.69. Technical Handbooks

1. Technical handbooks are drawn up by the SEMI Commission and submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.
2. Each category of equipment has its own specific technical handbook setting out: a. Detailed technical requirements. b. Test methods and acceptance criteria. c. Validity periods and conditions for re-homologation.
3. These handbooks are referenced throughout this Book, including m.27, m.28, m.42 and Chapter 5.

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**Proposal 113**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.70**

**Motivation:** Article m.70 “FIE Mark and Label of Quality” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book mentioned the FIE quality label briefly in Annexe A (field of application) and in scattered references to quality labels on clothing and equipment, but did not dedicate an article to trademark protection, authorized use, manufacturer guarantees, or misuse consequences. The new article establishes the FIE emblem as a registered trademark, restricts its use to successfully homologated equipment from suppliers in good standing, requires manufacturers to guarantee compliance, and references enforcement under m.71–m.73.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for FIE trademark and quality label protection
2. Establishes authorized use conditions: valid homologation and good standing
3. Codifies manufacturer guarantee of compliance when affixing the FIE label
4. References enforcement actions under m.71, m.72, and m.73 for misuse

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### m.70. FIE Mark and Label of Quality

1. The FIE emblem is a registered trademark.
2. The emblem and any FIE label of quality may only be affixed to equipment that has successfully completed the FIE homologation process, holds a valid homologation certificate and is a supplier of good standing with the FIE.
3. By affixing the FIE label of quality to their equipment, manufacturers guarantee that all such marked equipment complies with the technical and safety requirements of the FIE.
4. The FIE label of quality must remain visible and legible.
5. Misuse may result in actions under m.71, m.72, and m.73.

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**Proposal 114**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.71**

**Motivation:** Article m.71 “Expenses” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book addressed examination expenses only briefly in a single clause (old m.50) limited to SEMI Committee examination costs. The new article broadens the scope to cover all expenses and costs related to homologation, re-homologation, periodic checks, and modification-related reviews across all equipment categories, placing the financial responsibility entirely on the applicant.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article consolidating all homologation-related expense responsibilities
2. Broadens the scope beyond examination costs to include re-homologation and periodic checks
3. Covers all equipment categories explicitly (masks, blades, clothing, apparatus, software, video)
4. Places financial responsibility clearly on the applicant

---

### m.71. Expenses

All expenses and costs related to the homologation, re-homologation, periodic checks and modification-related reviews of equipment, including but not limited to masks, blades, breeches, jackets, under-plastrons, pistes, scoring apparatus, software and video systems, are borne by the applicant.

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**Proposal 115**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.72**

**Motivation:** Article m.72 “Withdrawal, Suspension, or Reinstatement of Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain explicit procedures for withdrawing, suspending, or reinstating homologation, nor did it enumerate enforcement measures beyond the general homologation process. The new article establishes grounds for withdrawal or suspension (non-conformity, competition-checking findings, unreported modifications), requires notification and publication of decisions, provides for reinstatement via the Materials Homologation Handbook, and enumerates five categories of additional enforcement measures.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for homologation withdrawal, suspension, and reinstatement
2. Defines three specific grounds for withdrawal or suspension
3. Requires manufacturer notification and public decision publication on the FIE website
4. Enumerates five enforcement measures from formal warnings to public notification of findings

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### m.72. Withdrawal, Suspension, or Reinstatement of Homologation

1. Homologation may be withdrawn or suspended by the SEMI Commission if it becomes aware that: a. The homologated equipment no longer conforms to the applicable FIE

Rules; or b. Consistent non-conformities identified during competition checking (Chapter 5); or c. After homologation has been granted, the equipment or its manufacturing process has been significantly modified, and the modification has not been submitted for a new homologation.

2. In case of withdrawal, suspension or reinstatement, the SEMI Commission informs the manufacturer and publishes the decision and its effective date on the FIE website.
3. Reinstatement of homologation follows the procedure specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
4. The SEMI Commission may, in addition to withdrawal or suspension, impose the following measures: a. Formal warnings. b. Requirements for corrective action within a specified timeframe. c. Financial penalties, the schedule and amounts of which are determined by the FIE. d. Temporary prohibition from submitting new homologation applications for a specified period. e. Public notification of non-conformity findings.
5. Penalty types for these measures are detailed in the Materials Homologation Handbook (mh.10).

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**Proposal 116**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.73**

**Motivation:** Article m.73 “Quality Control” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain a dedicated quality control framework for homologated equipment. The new article establishes ongoing periodic reviews for all homologated equipment, empowers the SEMI Commission to obtain and test random market samples, defines the process for handling non-conformities discovered through quality control, and references enforcement measures under m.72 for serious cases.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for post-homologation quality control
2. Establishes mandatory periodic reviews with published schedules
3. Empowers the SEMI Commission to conduct random market sampling and independent testing
4. Defines escalation procedures for non-conformity findings including potential homologation loss

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### m.73. Quality Control

1. Homologated equipment must be subject to ongoing periodic reviews following approval to maintain homologation status. The periodic review requirements, including frequency

and method of evaluation are defined separately for each weapon and category of equipment (see Materials Handbook).

2. The applicable periodic review schedule, including any periodic evaluation requirements, is established and published through official FIE channels.
3. The FIE reserves the right to amend the periodic review schedule and associated requirements.
4. Failure to complete periodic checks within the timeframes specified in the relevant technical handbooks may result in withdrawal of homologation under m.72.
5. The SEMI Commission may obtain random samples of any specific item of fencing equipment available on the market that is claimed to be FIE-homologated.
6. These samples may be subjected to technical analysis for quality control purposes.
7. If there is any doubt as to the quality of the item, the SEMI Commission may send it directly to a certified independent institute for testing.
8. Tests are carried out in accordance with the applicable FIE material rules and relevant regulatory standards.
9. If the tests reveal any non-conformity or degradation in quality, the SEMI Commission takes appropriate measures, which may include those specified in m.72.
10. In serious cases, the manufacturer may lose an existing FIE homologation for the equipment concerned (m.72, m.68).

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**Proposal 117**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Note 1**

**Motivation:** Note 1 “Distinction Between Homologation and Event-Specific Approval” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not explicitly distinguish between manufacturer-level homologation and event-specific apparatus approval, which led to confusion among stakeholders. The new note clarifies the two distinct processes: homologation (Chapter 6) certifies a design and manufacturing process across all competitions, while event-specific approval (Chapter 4, Section 2) authorizes specific apparatus for use at one World Championship or Olympic Games. Both processes are required for scoring apparatus at official FIE competitions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated explanatory note distinguishing two commonly confused processes
2. Clarifies that homologation is manufacturer-level certification valid across all competitions
3. Clarifies that event-specific approval authorizes apparatus for one particular competition
4. States that both processes are required for scoring apparatus at official FIE competitions

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## Note 1: Distinction Between Homologation and Event-Specific Approval

1. The homologation process described in this Chapter is distinct from the event-specific approval process for scoring apparatus described in Chapter 4, Section 2 (Authorization and Event-Level Approval).
2. Homologation concerns manufacturer compliance (Chapter 6): Certifies that a design and manufacturing process for a category of equipment meets FIE technical and safety standards. Valid for the duration specified in technical handbooks, across all competitions.
3. Event-specific apparatus approval concerns use at a particular competition (Chapter 4, Section 2): Approves a specific set of scoring apparatus, spools, and connections for use at one World Championship or Olympic Games.
4. Both processes are required for scoring apparatus used at official FIE competitions.

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## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Publicity Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 118**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: p.12**

**Motivation:** Add clarity to p12.2 and format language versions. Article p12.2 has confusing language and inconsistent formatting between the versions. Adopting the Spanish format and clarifying language would make this more easily understood.

**p.12** Advertising which is worn or carried

2. Fencing clothing and equipment

a) If a federation and/or a fencer have signed a sponsorship contract with a commercial or other company, the logo of that sponsorship partner may be fixed at a rate of maximum of 3 logos, with a maximum area of 85 cm2 each;

In foil and epee: at the top of the sleeve of the non-sword arm of the fencing jacket; in sabre: at the top of the thigh of the non-sword side of the fencing breeches and clearly separated from the national logo.

- on the socks;

- on the glove, a maximum of one logo of 30 cm2 , printed on the cuff, (attachment by sewing and gluing is not allowed);

- on the collarbones, a maximum of two logos, one each side, with a maximum area of 50cm2 each;

- on the collar of the fencing jacket or electric fencing jacket, a maximum of one logo with a maximum area of 30 cm2 ;

- on the back, a maximum of one logo, below the nationality code, with a maximum area of 250 cm2 .

The sponsor's logo may be displayed on each side of the mask. Maximum size: 100 cm2 on each side of the mask.

~~a)~~ b) A fencer may not display more than ten such logos in total.

**Opinion of the Rules Commission:** In favour.

# RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION DES REGLEMENTS DE LA FIE
# FIE RULES COMMISSION REPORT
# INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN DE LOS REGLAMENTOS DE LA FIE

| | |
|---|---|
| **Date, lieu et heure de la réunion :**<br>**Date, place and time of the meeting:**<br>**Fecha, lugar y horario de la reunión:** | **27th June SOFIA 14:00**<br>**28th June SOFIA 09:00** |
| **Participants:**<br>**Participants:**<br>**Participantes:** | 1. FERIANI Ziad (TUN) President - online<br>2. MATEEV Nikolay Ivanov (ISL) Representative of the Executive Committee in the Rules Commission<br>3. BARLADEANU, Roxana – Mariana (ROU)<br>4. CAFIERO Giuseppe (ITA)<br>5. KOEHLER Kelly (USA)<br>6. LAMMER Dieter (GER)<br>7. MAGHAYREH Eyyad (JOR)<br>8. PAGHIEV Mihail (MDA)<br>9. RAMIREZ Juan Carlos (PUR)<br>10. SINYAVSKAYA Maria (AIN)<br>11. RODRIGUEZ Nathalie FIE CEO – 27th June<br>12. PERILLIER SCHNEIDER Arno CEO |
| **Absences (indiquer si l'absence avait été annoncée) :**<br>**Absent (indicate if the absence had been announced):**<br>**Ausencias (indicar si la ausencia fue anunciada):** | 1. FARYABI Abbas Ali (IRI) absence had been announced |

## INTRODUCTION
## INTRODUCTION
## INTRODUCCIÓN

As part of the meetings of the FIE Rules Commission held in Sofia, the Commission conducted a series of meetings with representatives of other FIE Commissions and Councils in preparation for the **2026 FIE Congress**.

The principal purpose of these meetings was to discuss the various proposals for amendments to the FIE Rules submitted by different FIE bodies and to exchange views on their content, practical application and possible consequences.

The consultations were intended to allow the Rules Commission to take into consideration the expertise and practical experience of the different FIE Commissions and Councils before finalising its position on the proposals to be submitted to the FIE Congress.

The programme included meetings with the **Refereeing Commission, Veterans Council, Medical Commission, SEMI Commission, Coaches Council and a joint meeting with the members of FIE Executive Committee, Refereeing Commission, Coaches Council and Athletes Commission**.

The discussions therefore covered the different areas of the FIE Rules, including technical and refereeing matters, material and equipment requirements, veteran competitions, medical considerations, and the practical impact of proposed changes on coaches and athletes.

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**1. MEETING WITH THE MEMBERS OF FIE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, REFEREEING COMMISSION, COACHES COUNCIL AND ATHLETES COMMISSION.**

The Rules Commission held a joint meeting with representatives of the **the members of FIE Executive Committee, Refereeing Commission, Coaches Council and Athletes Commission** to discuss the proposals for amendments to the FIE Rules in preparation for the 2026 FIE Congress.

The meeting was attended by the Mr. Abdelmoneim Elhusseiny - Interim President of the FIE and Mrs. Gulnora Saidova the Secretary General, who participated in the discussions.

The purpose of the meeting was to obtain the views of coaches and athletes on the practical consequences of the proposed changes and to ensure that their experience was taken into consideration in the preparation of the Rules Commission's positions.

The discussion provided an opportunity to examine the proposals from the perspective of those directly involved in competitions as coaches and athletes.

Particular importance was given to the practical application of the proposed rules, their clarity and consistency, and their possible impact on the conduct of competitions.

The exchange with the Coaches Council and the Athletes Commission complemented the technical and regulatory discussions held with the other FIE bodies and provided an important practical perspective for the Rules Commission's consideration of the Congress proposals.

The comments and observations made during the meeting were taken into consideration in the continued preparation of the Rules Commission's positions for the 2026 FIE Congress.

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**2. MEETING WITH THE REFEREEING COMMISSION**

The Rules Commission held a meeting with the FIE Refereeing Commission to discuss the proposals for amendments to the FIE Rules submitted by the Refereeing Commission and the Rules Commisssion for consideration by the 2026 FIE Congress.

The discussions focused in particular on proposals concerning the **Technical Rules and refereeing procedures**, with the objective of ensuring that the proposed amendments are clear, coherent and capable of being applied consistently in competition.

A number of proposals submitted by the Refereeing Commission were already under consideration by the Rules Commission. These included proposals concerning the Technical Rules, video-refereeing, the application of sanctions and other matters relating to the duties and decisions of referees. Particular

attention was given to the practical interpretation and implementation of the proposed amendments and to ensuring consistency between the Rules and their application by referees.

The meeting was attended by the Mr. Abdelmoneim Elhusseiny - Interim President of the FIE and Mrs. Gulnora Saidova the Secretary General, who participated in the discussions.

The participation of the FIE leadership underlined the importance of the work being carried out in preparation for the Congress and the need for close cooperation between the Rules Commission and the Refereeing Commission.

Following the discussion, the Rules Commission took the observations and comments of the Refereeing Commission into consideration in establishing its opinions and, where necessary, modifications to the proposals.

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**3. MEETING WITH THE VETERANS COUNCIL**

The Rules Commission met with the FIE Veterans Council to discuss proposals concerning the rules applicable to veteran fencing and, in particular, proposals intended for consideration by the **2026 FIE Congress**.

The meeting provided an opportunity to examine the proposals from the perspective of veteran competitions and to consider their practical consequences for veteran fencers and organisers.

Particular attention was given to the proposed amendments concerning the organisation and format of veteran team competitions.

The Rules Commission's Congress working document includes a proposal concerning Article o.119, submitted by the Rules Commission, with application beginning with the 2027 Veterans World Championship. The proposal concerns the composition and organisation of Veterans and Grand Veterans team competitions and provides for a team format based on two winning sets, together with specific provisions concerning team composition, substitutions and the participation of fencers from different age categories.

The exchange with the Veterans Council allowed the Rules Commission to consider the practical aspects of the proposed provisions and the specific requirements of veteran competitions.

The observations made during the meeting were taken into consideration in the further preparation of the proposal for the Congress.

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**4. MEETING WITH THE MEDICAL COMMISSION**

The Rules Commission held a meeting with the FIE Medical Commission in order to discuss proposals for amendments to the FIE Rules for consideration by the 2026 FIE Congress where medical considerations were relevant.

The purpose of the meeting was to obtain the opinion and expertise of the Medical Commission on matters in which changes to the Rules could have medical or health-related implications.

The consultation was particularly important in ensuring that proposals requiring medical consideration were examined with the appropriate technical expertise before the Rules Commission established its final position.

The Rules Commission also considered that consultation with the Medical Commission should form part of the examination of proposals where questions of medical safety, age categories or other medical aspects arise.

The views exchanged during the meeting were taken into consideration in the preparation of the Rules Commission's positions for the Congress.

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**5. MEETING WITH THE SEMI COMMISSION**

The Rules Commission met with the FIE SEMI Commission to discuss proposals concerning the **Material Rules and equipment** submitted for consideration by the 2026 FIE Congress.

The meeting provided an opportunity to examine the proposed changes from both the regulatory and technical perspectives and to ensure that the provisions of the FIE Rules remain consistent with the technical requirements governing fencing equipment.

The Rules Commission's Congress working document includes several proposals submitted by the SEMI Commission, including proposals concerning the material rules, the MBook and a new materials homologation handbook. The Rules Commission recorded its opinion in favour of these proposals.

The discussions with the SEMI Commission therefore focused on the technical aspects of the proposed amendments and on the practical consequences of their implementation.

The Rules Commission took the views of the SEMI Commission into consideration in preparing its positions on the relevant proposals for the Congress.

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**6.Meeting with the Coaches Council**

The Rules Commission held a meeting with the FIE Coaches Council to discuss the proposals submitted by the Rules Commission concerning changes to the format of FIE competitions in preparation for the 2026 FIE Congress.

During the discussion, the representatives of the Coaches Council expressed their disagreement with the proposed changes to the competition format. They explained that, from the coaches' perspective, the proposed modifications could have an impact on the structure and conduct of FIE competitions and therefore did not support the proposals in their current form.

The Rules Commission explained that the proposals concerning changes to the competition format were developed also on the basis of the results of a survey conducted in 2026, for the first time in the history of the FIE, among athletes, coaches, referees and national federations. The results of this survey provided important feedback from the different stakeholders of fencing and were taken into consideration by the Rules Commission in its work on the proposed changes to the competition formats.

In response to the concerns expressed by the Coaches Council, the Rules Commission invited the Council to present its own ideas and proposals for improving the format of FIE competitions. The Rules Commission expressed its willingness to work together with the Coaches Council in a constructive manner, with the objective of establishing a joint working process and developing possible solutions that could improve the competition format while taking into account the experience and practical needs of coaches.

The Rules Commission welcomed the Coaches Council's contribution and encouraged the Council to provide concrete proposals and suggestions so that both bodies could work together on the further development and improvement of the FIE competition formats.

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**7. GENERAL CONCLUSION**

The meetings held in Sofia with the FIE Councils and Commissions formed an important part of the Rules Commission's preparation for the **2026 FIE Congress**.

The principal objective of the consultations was to discuss the proposals for amendments to the FIE Rules submitted by the different FIE bodies and to provide an opportunity for each concerned Commission or Council to explain its proposals and provide its views on their practical application.

The meetings brought together the perspectives of **refereeing, veteran fencing, medical expertise, equipment and materials, coaches and athletes**.

The Rules Commission considers that these consultations are essential to ensure that proposals submitted to the Congress are examined from all relevant perspectives and that the final texts are clear, coherent and practical.

Following the discussions, the Rules Commission continued its examination of the proposals and prepared its opinions and, where appropriate, modifications for submission to the **2026 FIE Congress**.

The Sofia meetings therefore contributed directly to the preparation of the Rules Commission's final positions on the proposed amendments to the FIE Rules.

# REPORT OF THE FIE SEMI COMMISSION

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.4**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.4.4 If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~3~~ 4 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the ~~3~~ 4 candidates of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~7~~ 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.
If no candidate of one of the genders has been nominated, the 10 candidates ~~of different nationalities~~ of the other gender with the greatest number of votes are elected.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates of such gender put forward who have received at least one vote and the remainder of the Commission will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

If there are fewer than 10 candidates for a Commission then the Commission will consist of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission then the members of the Commission whose term had just ended shall hold over for the following year until new candidates can be presented and an election is held for that Commission at the following Congress.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approve, however, would like to understand the rationale of the removal.

**Proposal 56**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** To improve functionality and efficiency of the FIE SEMI Commission it is necessary to select specialised and highly qualified members in technical fields SEMI Commission is involved.

A candidate for the SEMI Commission must have a university or college degree in engineering or materials science or metallurgy or computer science or be a FIE-licenced SEMI technician. ~~or in a subject relating to the work of the SEMI Commission or be practising as an engineer or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.~~

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approve

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**Proposals for the 2026 Congress**

**Modifications of the Technical Rules**

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

## Proposal 27

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.64**

**Motivation:** The place inside the Piste Enclosure is for the referees working zone and must be free of foreign objects.

**t.64**

7. No recording devices placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** We should define the items that are ALLOWED versus not allowed and by the piste enclosure as defined in the World Cup handbook. The list for items not allowed can get lengthy over time, so we should define what is ALLOWED per the FIE specifications.

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## Proposal 28

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.71**

**Motivation:** To correct penalties for offences with clothing and equipment which does not conform with the Rules. For example, missing a control mark is a 2nd group, missing logo is elimination from the competition and not correct size is a 1st group of penalties as well as to make clear what should happen after 5 minutes if a fencer has no regular equipment.

**t.71**

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only one regulation weapon (cf. t.114, 115); or
- with only one regulation bodywire; or

- with only one regulation mask wire, or
- with a weapon or a bodywire which does not work, or which does not conform with the Rules; or
- without his protective under-plastron (cf. t.64.5); or
- with a conductive jacket which does not fully cover the valid target; or
- with a mask whose 2nd security device is not securely fixed to the body of the mask; or
- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.) ;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in ~~Articles t.158-162, t.165,~~ t.170~~, for the offences of the 1st group~~ and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes; otherwise, the fencer will be excluded from the competition.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approved

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**Proposal 30**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.72**

**Motivation:** The fencer should not be penalized if the condition of the equipment changed during the bout in case a fencer does not notice this because he was focused on the next action.

**t.72**

When during a bout an irregularity is found in the equipment which could be caused by conditions **during** the bout:

Examples:

- conductive jacket with holes in which hits are registered as non-valid,
- weapon or bodywire no longer functioning,
- pressure of the spring in the point too weak,
- the travel in the point no longer regulation,
- a curve of the blade exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4)
- presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device.

the Referee will apply neither warning nor penalty and any hit scored with the equipment which has become defective will be awarded.

~~However, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose weapon, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, has a curve of the blade which exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4) commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.~~

~~Similarly, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose mask, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device (cf. m.25.7.f), commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with articles t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170.~~

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approved

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**Proposal 31**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.73**

**Motivation:** Update t.73 for consistency with penalty chart and proper guidance. Article t.73.1 specifies penalties for offenses a-c and e-g but not for t.73.1.d (included in the penalty chart as a group 4 penalty).

**t.73**

**1** g) is equipped with electronic communication equipment permitting a person off the piste to communicate with the fencer during the bout;

then, in cases c), d), e), f) and g) above, the Referee must immediately confiscate the equipment (weapon, bodywire, if necessary conductive jacket, mask, protective under-plastron, breeches, etc.), and have it examined by the expert on duty.

**2** After having obtained the opinion of the expert (a member of the SEMI Committee at the fencing events at the Olympic Games and at World Championships), who has established the facts (cf. m.33ss), the Referee will apply the following sanctions, without prejudice to the application of Article t.137.2/4;

- in cases c), d), e), f) and g) the Referee will penalise him as specified for offences of the 4th group (cf. Articles t.158-162, t.169, t.170).

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** please see revision if SEMI Commission member is not available

**2** After having obtained the opinion of the expert (a member of the SEMI Commission ~~Committee~~ when available, otherwise the event supervisor ~~at the fencing events at the Olympic Games and at World Championships~~), who has established the facts (cf. m.33ss), the Referee will apply the following sanctions, without prejudice to the application of Article t.137.2/4;

**Proposal 29**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.71**

**Motivation:** To delete the explanation in the brackets in article t.71 because it creates confusion in the interpretation of the rules

**t.71**

If a fencer appears on the piste:

.....

- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.);

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approve

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Material Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 40**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Structural Proposal: Adoption of the Two-Book Model for the FIE Material Rules**

**Motivation:** The SEMI Commission proposes that the Material Rules (the "M Book") be separated into:

(1) a **Material Rules Book (Book M)** containing all competition-side rules, and

(2) a **Materials Homologation Handbook (Book MH)** containing technical specifications, test methods, and homologation procedures for manufacturers, suppliers, and testing laboratories.

The Handbook is a highly technical document. Its content currently resides in Annexe A and Annexe B, intermingled with competition rules, making both harder to use. Several test methods in the current annexes are incomplete or missing.

The SEMI Commission, consistent with its mandate under FIE Statutes Article 6.5.4(e) to "lay down the testing procedure for such equipment," needs flexibility to develop and update these procedures in a timely manner to stay updated on safety and innovative technologies.

Congress continues to retain full authority over all safety standards and competition rules under FIE Statutes Article 3.2.3, the Congress "determines the modifications to be made to the Statutes, the Rules for the competitions". The Executive Committee continues to maintain institutional oversight and finally, the Handbook is still fully binding as Book M explicitly requires compliance with the Handbook.

This reorganization:

1. Separates the M Book into two documents with distinct audiences and governance pathways
2. Preserves all existing rules, safety standards, and homologation obligations without substantive change
3. Delegates technical testing procedures to the SEMI Commission and Executive Committee, consistent with FIE Statutes Article 6.5.4
4. Supports reorganization of scattered information into clear topics and areas and focuses the content to key stakeholders (competition-side vs. testing/homologation).
5. Enables the SEMI Commission to fill gaps in current test methods and update procedures as technology evolves
6. Aligns FIE practice with the standard approach used by major international sports federations.

**Proposed Resolution**

The SEMI Commission requests that the Congress approve the following:

1. That the Material Rules be restructured into: (a) Book M (competition-side rules, amended by Congress) and (b) Book MH (technical specifications, adopted by the Executive Committee on the SEMI Commission's proposal).
2. That the SEMI Commission be authorized to update technical procedures in Book MH, provided safety thresholds in Book M are maintained.
3. That compliance with Book MH be mandatory for all manufacturers, suppliers, and laboratories seeking FIE homologation.
4. That Annexe A and Annexe B be removed from the Material Rules, as their content is incorporated into Book M (Chapter 6) and Book MH.
5. That all changes to Book MH follow transparent versioning with communication to federations and manufacturers.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approve

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**Proposal 41**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**NEW Materials Rule**

**Motivation:**

The proposed restructuring of the Material Rules does change the substance of the rules; it reorganizes them to be clearer, more precise, and easier to use for referees, weapons control, and federations.

What Does NOT Change

1. Technical requirements
2. Safety standards
3. Governance
4. Homologation requirements

The comparison tables will be used as a reference document. Every article and requirement from the 2025 Material Rules has been carried over and is traceable: either into the new Material Rules Book or into the new Materials Homologation Handbook, with explicit mappings for legal and rules verification.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approved.

**Proposal 42**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**NEW Materials homologation handbook**

**Motivation:**

This handbook contains the technical specifications, test methods, laboratory procedures, and manufacturing standards necessary for the homologation of fencing equipment and materials used in FIE competitions.

This handbook is a companion document to the **Materials Rules (Book M)**, which governs competition-side obligations. This handbook focuses exclusively on manufacturer-side requirements, test procedures, and homologation processes.

**Key Principles:**

- Materials Rules Book → What is allowed in the Field of Play (referee/fencer focused)
- Materials Homologation Handbook →Equipment requirements, how it is tested and certified (manufacturer/laboratory focused)

The Materials Homologation Handbook will follow a controlled SEMI process, with transparent versioning and communication to federations and manufacturers, addressing past concerns about changes not being clearly communicated.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approve

Addition to Motivation: SEMI can update technical test procedures as materials science evolves with final governance is executed by the Executive Committee.

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**Proposals 43 until 117**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**75 proposals below for the FIE Material Rules.**

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approved.

**Article m.1**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.1 “Characteristics Common to All Weapons” provides only a brief enumeration of weapon types, a general conformity statement, and a general safety prohibition, without establishing scope, definitions, or compliance obligations for the Book. The restructured Article m.1 “General Provisions” introduces a formal framework that was previously absent, while drawing on principles from old m.1.1 (weapon types), old m.1.2 (conformity requirement), and old m.37 (fencer responsibility and weapons control obligations).

This reorganization:

1. Establishes a clear scope and application statement for the entire Material Rules Book
2. Provides formal definitions (Weapon, Equipment, Tip, Earth circuit, Official Safety Documents, Competition) that were previously undefined or implied across multiple articles
3. Creates an explicit mandatory Weapons Control compliance obligation
4. Sets a foundation of precedence rules for conflict resolution between this Book and other FIE documents
5. Maintains all existing principles without substantive change to technical requirements

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~~**PART 1. FENCERS' WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT**~~

~~**CHAPTER 1. WEAPONS**~~ **Chapter 1: Global Requirements**

~~**CHARACTERISTICS COMMON TO ALL WEAPONS**~~

## m.1. General Provisions

**1. Scope** ~~There are three types of weapon: foil, épée and sabre.~~

This Book sets out the material and safety requirements applicable to all weapons and equipment used in fencing.

**2. Application, Amendment, and Precedence** ~~All weapons are authorised providing only that they conform to these regulations and to the safety standards which are annexed.~~

1. This Book must apply to all competitions organized, sanctioned, or recognized by the FIE.
2. In case of conflict concerning material and safety requirements, the provisions of this Book and the official safety documents must prevail.
3. SEMI Commission reserves the right to modify or supplement the technical requirements and handbooks whenever developments in technology, experience, or laboratory testing allow improvements in safety or performance.
4. Any such modifications must be communicated to member federations and manufacturers through official FIE channels and procedures.

**3. Definitions** ~~The weapon should be so constructed that it cannot normally injure either the user or his opponent. All methods of treating a blade between the guard and the tip (button) including the groove, by grinding, filing, heating or other methods, are forbidden.~~

1. Weapon must mean a foil, épée, or sabre conforming to this Book.
2. Equipment must mean components forming part of or attached to a weapon, including but not limited to clothing, protective gear, or device worn or used by a fencer or referee.
3. Official Safety Documents must mean documents issued by the FIE relating to safety standards, notices or safety directives through its official channels.
4. Competition must mean any FIE competition.
5. Tip must mean the forward extremity of the blade, including the electrical tip assembly on foil and épée and the striking end of the blade on sabre.
6. Earth circuit must also mean ground circuit.

**4. Mandatory Weapons Control Compliance**

1. All weapons and equipment used in competition must comply with this Book.
2. Weapons and equipment used in competition must be subject to official Weapons Control procedures as set out in Chapter 5.

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**Proposal 44**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.2**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.2 “General description” provides component descriptions for all weapons (blade, handle, guard). The restructured Article m.2 “General Technical Requirements” replaces this with overarching technical provisions. Old m.2 component descriptions are redistributed to new m.3 “General Construction of Weapons.” The new sub-sections draw content from other old articles: “Types of Weapons” repurposes old m.1.1 (weapon type enumeration); “Conformity Requirement” expands old m.1.2 (conformity statement) into a formal compliance framework; “General Safety Principle” expands old m.1.3 (safety prohibition) from “should not injure” to “must not foreseeably cause injury.” “Prohibition of Circumvention” and “Functional Integrity” are entirely new provisions with no prior equivalent.

This reorganization:

1. Redistributes old m.2 component descriptions to new m.3
2. Moves weapon type enumeration (from old m.1.1) into a dedicated sub-section
3. Establishes an explicit conformity requirement with a non-use rule (expanding old m.1.2)
4. Modernizes the safety principle (expanding old m.1.3)
5. Adds new anti-circumvention and functional integrity provisions

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~~General description~~

## m.2. General Technical Requirements

**1. Types of Weapons** ~~All weapons are composed of the following parts.~~

There are three types of weapon: Foil, Épée, Sabre.

**2. Conformity Requirement** ~~1. A flexible steel blade completed at its forward extremity by a button and at the rear by the tang (the latter included in the handle when the weapon is mounted). At all three weapons, the use of maraging steel blades is obligatory.~~

1. A weapon must conform in all respects to the material, construction, and dimensional requirements set out in this Book.
2. A weapon that does not conform must not be used in competition.
3. Only members of the SEMI Commission or the Directoire Technique can require verification of conformity to the Book and to homologation requirements in Chapter 6.

**3. General Safety Principle** ~~2. A handle within which the tang of the blade is fixed, and which enables the fencer's hand to hold the weapon. It may be composed of one or several parts: in the latter case it is divided into a grip (which is normally held in the hand) and a pommel (rear portion of the handle which locks the handle onto the tang).~~

1. A weapon must be constructed and maintained so that it does not intentionally or foreseeably cause injury beyond valid fencing actions.
2. Sharpening of the point or edges, grinding, filing, heating, or other methods that could create a cutting, slicing, or otherwise dangerous surface, are forbidden.

**4. Prohibition of Circumvention** ~~3. A metal guard fixed (with the convex face towards the front) between the blade and the handle, serving to protect the sword hand. For foil and épée, the guard must contain a padding or cushion (cf. m.5/2) to reduce the effect of blows. It will also contain a socket to which the bodywire can be connected.~~

No component or modification must be used to circumvent the intent or effect of these Rules.

**5. Functional Integrity**

A weapon must remain structurally sound and functionally reliable under normal competitive use.

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**Proposal 45**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

## Article m.3

**Motivation:** The current Article m.3 “Dimensions” defines measurement planes (A–E), distances, and blade-straightening rules for measurement. The restructured Article m.3 “General Construction of Weapons” replaces this with comprehensive construction provisions. Old m.3 measurement content is redistributed to new m.4 “Weapon Measurements and Dimensions.” The new sub-sections draw content from multiple old articles: “Components of a Weapon” repurposes old m.2 (blade, handle, guard enumeration); “Blade — General Construction” and “Blade — Material Requirements” draw from old m.2.1 (blade description and maraging steel requirement); “Blade — Surface Condition” repurposes old m.1.3 (blade treatment prohibition); “Guard” sub-sections draw from old m.5 (guard shape, surface, padding); “Handle” sub-sections draw from old m.4 (handle lengths, gauge, restrictions, orthopaedic conditions); “Tang — General Requirements” and “Socket Assembly” are entirely new provisions.

This reorganization:

1.. Redistributes old m.3 dimension content to new m.4

2. Consolidates weapon component descriptions from old m.2, m.4, and m.5 into one construction article

3. Adds detailed tang requirements previously absent

4. Creates discrete sub-sections for guard, handle, and socket assembly

5. Maintains all existing technical values while adding structural clarity

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~~Dimensions~~ **Chapter 2: Weapons**

**Part 1: All Weapon Parameters**

### m.3. General Construction of Weapons

~~Each weapon has its particular design and measurements.~~

~~1. The length of the blade includes the button and everything which is added in front of the convex surface of the guard whether or not it is fixed to the latter.~~

**1. Components of a Weapon**

A weapon must be composed of the following components:

1. Blade;
2. Tang;
3. Guard;
4. Handle;
5. Socket.

**2. Blade — General Construction** ~~2. The total length of the weapon and its various parts corresponds to the distances between lines (planes) drawn parallel to each other and perpendicular to the axis of the blade. These lines are situated: a. A at the forward extremity of the weapon; b. B~~

~~at the point where the blade leaves the front, convex, surface of the guard; c. C at the back of the aforesaid guard; d. D between the grip and the pommel; e. E at the rear extremity of the handle.~~

1. The blade must be constructed of flexible steel.
2. The blade must bend under normal fencing actions without breaking.

**3. Blade — Material Requirements** ~~3. The total length of the weapon is the distance between lines A and E; the length of the blade that between A and B; the length of the handle that between B and E; and the depth of the guard that between B and C.~~

For all three weapons, blades must be manufactured from maraging steel.

**4. Blade — Surface Condition** ~~4. The maximum total length of the weapon must be less than the greatest permissible length for the blade and the handle added together. These two latter lengths must, therefore, complement each other to arrive at the total length of the weapon.~~

The blade must not be sharpened, ground, heated, or otherwise treated in a manner that creates a hazardous surface.

**5. Tang — General Requirements** ~~5. In order to measure either the total length of the weapon or the length of the blade, it is essential that the latter should be without any curve. When measurements are being made, the blade should therefore be held straight on a flat surface.~~

1. The tang must form an integral continuation of the blade and must be manufactured from the same steel as the blade.
2. The tang must be designed and manufactured so that it maintains the structural integrity of the blade–handle assembly under normal competitive use.
3. Any transitions between the blade portion and the tang must be free of cracks or other defects.
4. The tang must be securely fixed within the handle so that it cannot loosen or rotate under normal competitive use.
5. No component, treatment, or modification of the tang may be used to circumvent the intent or effect of these Rules.

**6. Guard — General Requirements** ~~6. Only the pommel or the locking nut may be placed between lines D and E.~~

1. The guard must protect the hand and wrist without creating undue risk.
2. Material must conform with the requirements in the Homologation Handbook.

**7. Guard — External Surface**

1. The guard must be in a convex shape.
2. The external surface must be smooth.
3. The guard finish must not produce a distracting glare.

4. The guard must not include features that catch or hold the opponent's point.
5. The guard must not have a raised rim.
6. The guard must not feature any advertising.

**8. Guard — Internal Padding**

Internal materials must not enlarge the protective area beyond dimensional limits.

**9. Guard — Mounting**

The guard must be mounted and fixed between the blade and the handle with the convex face toward the front.

**10. Handle — General Requirements**

1. The handle must be composed of one or several parts.
2. A handle with several parts is divided into a grip and a pommel or a grip and locking nut.
3. A handle must comply with the regulations intended to place the various types of weapons on an equal footing.

**11. Handle — Structural Requirements**

1. The handle must be securely fixed.
2. The handle must not contain sharp edges.

**12. Handle — Design Restrictions**

1. The handle for thrusting weapons must have a notch of 2 mm minimum depth.
2. Handles must not contain concealed devices, concealed wires or any component not expressly permitted under these Rules.
3. Throwing-assist mechanisms must not be permitted.
4. The handle design must not circumvent or indirectly avoid the dimensional limits set out in m.4.
5. The handle must not include any device or component that projects beyond the external perimeter of the guard.
6. No portion of the grip must be designed or shaped to increase the protection of the hand or wrist beyond that provided by the guard.

**13. Handle — Special Shape (Orthopedic)**

If the handle or glove includes any device, attachment, or special (orthopaedic) shape that fixes the position of the hand, the handle must:

1. Fix the hand in one, and only one, position on the handle; and
2. In that position, keep the tip of the fully extended thumb no more than 2 cm from the inner surface of the guard.

**14. Socket Assembly — General Requirements**

1. Each weapon must contain a socket assembly.
2. The socket assembly must be fixed between the guard and the handle.

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**Proposal 46**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.4**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.4 “The handle” (old m.4.1–m.4.6) describes handle lengths, gauge requirements, handle type restrictions, throwing prohibition, protection restrictions, and orthopaedic handle conditions. The restructured Article m.4 “Weapon Measurements and Dimensions” replaces this with a consolidated dimensional reference. Old m.4 handle content is redistributed to new m.3 “General Construction of Weapons”: handle lengths (old m.4.1) move to new m.4 “Maximum Handle Length” with all values preserved; handle gauge (old m.4.2) moves to new m.3 “Handle — Structural Requirements”; handle types (old m.4.3) to new m.3 “Handle — General Requirements”; throwing prohibition (old m.4.4) and protection restriction (old m.4.5) to new m.3 “Handle — Design Restrictions”; orthopaedic conditions (old m.4.6) to new m.3 “Handle — Special Shape.” New m.4 draws its measurement plane and distance content from old m.3 “Dimensions” (planes A–E, distances). “Measurement Procedure” is a new provision referencing Chapter 5 (Weapons Control). This reorganization: 1. Consolidates all dimensional definitions (from old m.3) and handle lengths (from old m.4.1) into one article 2. Redistributes old m.4 handle requirements to new m.3 construction sub-sections 3. Adds an explicit measurement procedure reference to Chapter 5 4. Preserves all dimensional values without change 5. Creates a single reference point for all weapon measurement definitions

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~~The handle~~ **Chapter 2: Weapons**

**Part 1: All Weapon Parameters**

**m.4. Weapon Measurements and Dimensions**

**1. Measurement Planes** ~~1. The maximum length of the handle at foil and épée is 20 cm, measured between lines B and E, and 18 cm, measured between lines B and D. At sabre the maximum length of the handle is 17 cm.~~

1. Measurement planes A through E must define reference points for dimensional compliance.
2. These planes are all parallel to one another and perpendicular to the axis of the blade.
   a. Plane A at the forward extremity of the weapon.

b. Plane B at the point where the blade exits the front convex surface of the guard.

c. Plane C at the rear surface of the guard.

d. Plane D at the junction between the grip and the pommel.

e. Plane E at the rear extremity of the handle.

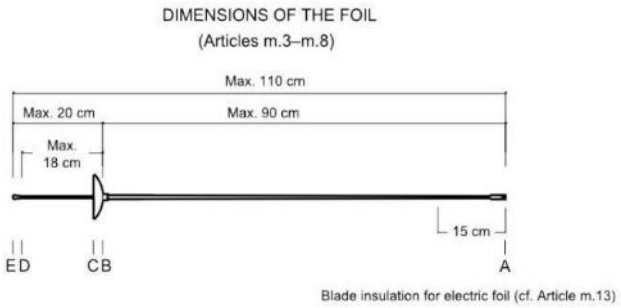



**Figure 1: Planes of the weapon**

**2. Measurement Distances** ~~2. The handle must be able to pass through the same gauge as the guard. It must be so made that normally it cannot injure either the user or his opponent.~~

Distances are measured along the axis of the blade between the planes where the blade is straight (perpendicular to the plane of measurement):

1. Total weapon length: the distance between planes A and E.
2. Blade length: the distance between planes A and B.
3. Handle length — with pommel: the distance between planes B and E.
4. Handle length — without pommel: the distance between planes B and rear extremity of the grip.
5. Guard depth: the distance between planes B and C.

**3. Measurement Procedure** ~~3. All types of handle are allowed providing that they conform to the regulations which have been framed with a view to placing the various types of weapons on the same footing. However, at épée, orthopaedic handles, whether metal or not, may not be covered with leather or any material which could hide wires or switches.~~

Measurement procedures must follow provisions and process set forth in Chapter 5 (see m.57 and other applicable Weapons Control procedures).

**4. Maximum Handle Length** ~~4. The handle must not include any device which assists the fencer to use it as a throwing weapon~~

1. Foil and Épée — without a separate pommel: Plane B to Plane E = 20 cm.
2. Foil and Épée — with a separate pommel: Plane B to Plane D = 18 cm.
3. Sabre: Plane B to Plane E = 17 cm.

~~5. The handle must not include any device which can increase in any way the protection afforded to the hand or wrist of the fencer by the guard: a cross bar or electric socket which extends beyond the edge of the guard is expressly forbidden.~~

~~6. If the handle (or glove) includes any device or attachment or has a special shape (orthopaedic) which fixes the position of the hand on the handle, the handle must conform to the following conditions:~~

~~a. It must determine and fix one position only for the hand on the handle.~~

~~b. When the hand occupies this one position on the handle, the extremity of the thumb when completely extended must not be more than 2 cm from the inner surface of the guard.~~

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**Proposal 47**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.5**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.5 “The guard” (old m.5.1–m.5.5) describes guard surface requirements, padding/wiring provisions, socket attachment systems, electrical resistance limits, and equipment checking requirements applicable across all weapons. The restructured Article m.5 “Foil General Characteristics” replaces this with a single foil-specific nature statement. Old m.5 content is redistributed: guard surface (old m.5.1) moves to new m.3 “Guard — General Requirements”; padding and wiring (old m.5.2) to new m.8 “Foil Guard — Padding” and new m.9 “Foil Electrical System”; socket attachment (old m.5.3) to new m.3 “Socket Assembly — Detachment, Security”; electrical resistance (old m.5.4) to new m.9 “Foil Electrical System — Electrical Resistance”; equipment and checking (old m.5.5) to new m.2 “General Technical Requirements” and new m.3 construction provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear foil-specific introduction article
2. Redistributes cross-weapon guard requirements to the general construction article (new m.3)
3. Places foil-specific guard details in new m.8
4. Consolidates electrical provisions in new m.9

---

~~The guard~~ **Part 2: Foil Specific Requirements**

**m.5. Foil General Characteristics**

**1. Nature of the Weapon** ~~1. The convex face of the guard must have a shape and surface which is both smooth and not too shiny. It must be so made that it can neither hold nor catch the opponent's point. It must not have a raised rim.~~

The foil is a thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of a spring-loaded tip connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

~~2. a) For foil and épée, inside the guard there must be a cushion (padding) sufficiently wide to protect the electric wires from the fencer's fingers. The padding on the inside of the guard must be less than 2 cm thick and must be arranged in such a way as not to increase the protection which the guard affords the hand.~~

~~b. The connections must be so arranged that it is impossible for the fencer to break or make contacts while fencing.~~

~~c. On foils, the wire must be protected by an insulating sheath.~~

~~d. On épées, the two wires must be protected by two insulating sheaths, one on each wire.~~

~~e. Both the wire and the insulating sheath must go right up to the socket.~~

~~f. In no case may uninsulated wires project beyond the point where they are attached to the socket (cf. m.29, m.31).~~

~~3. Any system of attachment inside the guard is allowed, provided that it conforms to the following requirements.~~

~~a) It must be easy to detach or attach the bodywire.~~

~~b) It must be possible to check it.~~

~~c) It must have a security device which prevents the bodywire from becoming unplugged during the bout. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire.~~

~~d) It must ensure the complete connection of the electric wires; it must be impossible for even a momentary break of contact to occur while the plugs are connected.~~

~~e) It must not include any part which allows electrical contact to be made between the plug sockets.~~

~~4. a) The maximum electrical resistance allowed for foil and épée is 2 ohms and for sabre 1 ohm.~~

~~5. a) At foil and épée, only traditional or homologated pointes d'arrêt are accepted.~~

~~b. In order that the registering of hits by the contact of the point on the opponent be correctly registered by the scoring device, the pointes d'arrêt must be clean. The electrical resistance measured in ohms must not exceed the limit of two ohms (m.5.4.a).~~

~~c. The blades and the guards at épée, foil and sabre must be totally of metal. Apart from at sabre where the part of the guard next to the pommel is insulated (insulating sheath), their exteriors must not be covered by any material (plastic or other). The guard may not feature any advertising. This is also the case for the insulated part of the sabre guard.~~

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**Proposal 48**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.6**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.6 “Weight” (old m.6) contains only the foil total weight limit (500 g). The restructured Article m.6 “Foil Dimensions and Weight” consolidates all foil dimensional and weight limits into a single article. “Maximum Total Length” draws from old m.7 (110 cm total length); “Maximum Blade Length” draws from old m.8.4 (90 cm blade length); “Maximum Weight” expands old m.6 with explicit component definitions and measurement procedure references.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all foil dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.7 and blade length from old m.8.4
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

---

~~**Weight**~~

## m.6. Foil Dimensions and Weight

**1. Maximum Total Length** ~~The total weight of the foil ready for use must be less than 500 g.~~

The total length of the foil, measured between plane A and plane E of a straight blade, must not exceed 110 cm (see Figure 2, m.4, and m.57).

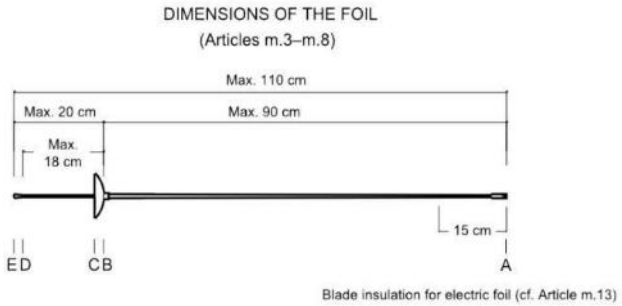



**Figure 2: Dimension of the foil**

**2. Maximum Blade Length**

The blade length, measured between plane A and plane B, must not exceed 90 cm (see Figure 2, m.4, and m.57).

**3. Maximum Weight**

1. For the purposes of Foil, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket, tip assembly, insulation, and internal wiring.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the foil must be less than 500g.
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures (see m.55–m.57).

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**Proposal 49**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.7**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.7 “Length” (old m.7) contains only the foil maximum total length (110 cm). The restructured Article m.7 “Foil Blade” consolidates all foil blade-specific provisions into one article. “Cross Section” draws from old m.8.1 (rectangular section); “Material” from old m.8.1 (steel/Annexe A reference); “Orientation” from old m.8.3 (widest face horizontal); “Edge Treatment” from old m.8.2 (chamfer requirements); “Flexibility” from old m.8.5 (bend 5.5–9.5 cm); “Curvature” from old m.8.6 (max 1 cm); “Blade Tip” from old m.12.4 (minimum 3.5 mm diameter). This reorganization: 1. Gathers all blade characteristics from old m.8 into a dedicated blade article 2. Moves the total length provision to new m.6 3. Adds blade tip dimensional requirements from old m.12 4. References Weapons Control procedures for verification

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~~**Length**~~

**m.7. Foil Blade**

**1. Cross Section** ~~1. The maximum total length of the foil is 110 cm.~~

The blade must be rectangular in cross-section.

**2. Material**

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook (see m.69).

**3. Orientation**

1. The blade must be mounted with the widest face horizontal.
2. The groove must be positioned uppermost.

## 4. Edge Treatment

1. The edges of the blade must be chamfered.
2. The chamfer must form an angle of 45° ± 5°.
3. The chamfer must measure 0.5 mm ± 0.1 mm on each side.
4. The edges must be smooth and must not be capable of cutting.

## 5. Flexibility

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend between 5.5 cm and 9.5 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from Plane A.
   c. The bend of the blade is measured from Plane A between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 3).

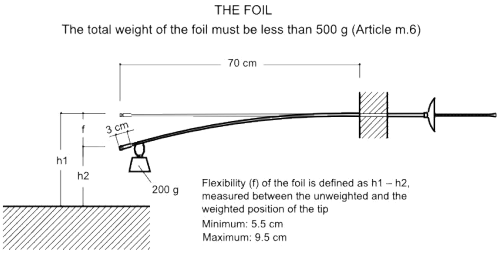



**Figure 3: Foil blade flexibility verification**

## 6. Curvature

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 1 cm.
2. The curvature must only be in the vertical plane.
3. The curvature must be near the center of the blade.
4. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way (see Figure 4):
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
   b. The position of the curve is uppermost.
   c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade.
   d. The curvature must be measured as described above (see m.57 for general measurement rules).

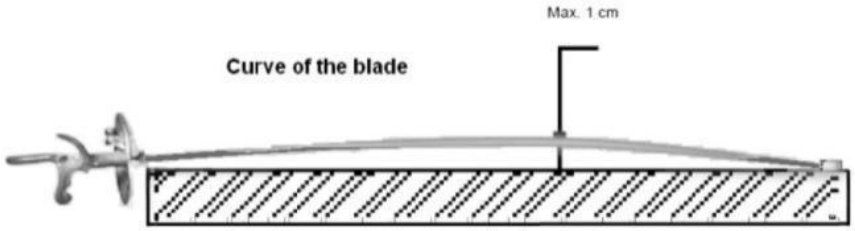



**Figure 4: Foil blade curvature**

**7. Blade Tip**

1. The diameter at the end of a bare blade closest to Plane A must not be less than 3.5 mm prior to threading.
2. No wrapping or artificial enlargement of the blade diameter must be permitted.

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**Proposal 50**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.8**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.8 “The blade” (old m.8.1–m.8.6) describes blade cross-section, edge treatment, mounting orientation, maximum blade length, flexibility, and curvature. The restructured Article m.8 “Foil Guard” covers foil guard diameter, blade position, padding, gauge compliance, and socket assembly. Old m.8 blade content is redistributed: cross-section (old m.8.1) to new m.7 “Foil Blade — Cross Section”; edge treatment (old m.8.2) to new m.7 “Edge Treatment”; mounting (old m.8.3) to new m.7 “Orientation”; blade length (old m.8.4) to new m.6 “Maximum Blade Length”; flexibility (old m.8.5) to new m.7 “Flexibility”; curvature (old m.8.6) to new m.7 “Curvature.” New m.8 guard content draws from old m.9 (guard gauge and diameter) and old m.5 (padding and socket requirements).

This reorganization:

1. Moves all blade provisions from old m.8 to new m.7
2. Creates a dedicated foil guard article
3. Draws guard content from old m.9 and old m.5
4. Adds socket assembly requirements

---

~~**The blade**~~

**m.8. Foil Guard**

**1. Diameter** ~~1. The blade, which is rectangular in section, must be made of steel complying with the safety standards described in Annexe A to the Rules.~~

The diameter of the guard must not be less than 9.5 cm and must not exceed 12 cm.

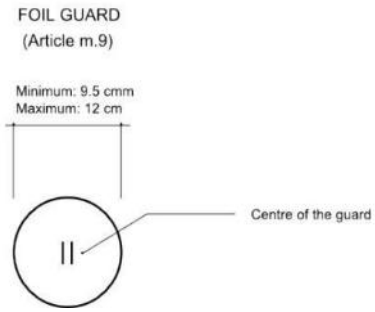



**Figure 5: Foil guard**

**2. Position of the Blade** ~~2. The edges must be smoothed off so that they cannot cut, and must be chamfered at an angle of 45° (± 5°), 0.5 mm on each side (± 0.1 mm), so that they will neither cut nor become capable of cutting.~~

The blade must pass through the center of the guard.

**3. Padding** ~~3. The blade is mounted with the widest face placed horizontally.~~

1. The interior must contain padding of cushioning material.
2. Padding must not exceed 2 cm in thickness.

**4. Gauge Compliance** ~~4. The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm (cf. m.3).~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The foil guard must pass through a cylindrical gauge of 12 cm diameter and 15 cm length (see m.4 and m.57 for dimensional checks).
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the cylinder.

**5. Foil Guard Socket Assembly** ~~5. The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of minimum 5.5 cm and maximum 9.5 cm measured in the following way. a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button. b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from the extremity of the button. c. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 8).~~

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the body wire is plugged.
2. The socket assembly must ensure reliable electrical contact during all fencing actions (see m.36–m.37 for body wire and plug requirements).
3. The socket assembly must be secured to prevent disconnection during the bout.

~~6. The blade should be as straight as possible. Any curve of the blade must be uniform and the maximum bend must in any case be less than one cm; it is only permitted in the vertical plane and must be near the centre of the blade. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i) the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii) the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 8).~~

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**Proposal 51**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.9**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.9 “The guard (cf. m.5)” (old m.9.1–m.9.2) describes the foil guard gauge requirement (12 cm diameter, 15 cm cylinder) and guard diameter limits (9.5–12 cm). The restructured Article m.9 “Foil Electrical System” covers the electrical wire, resistance, and circuit function. Old m.9 guard content moves to new m.8 “Foil Guard — Gauge Compliance” and “Diameter.” New m.9 electrical content draws from old m.10 (electric wire and groove), old m.5.4 (2-ohm resistance limit), and old m.11.6 (earth circuit function).

This reorganization:

1. Moves guard gauge/diameter from old m.9 to new m.8
2. Creates a dedicated electrical system article for the foil
3. Consolidates wire, resistance, and circuit provision
4. Draws from old m.10, m.5.4, and m.11.6

---

~~The guard (cf. m.5)~~

### m.9. Foil Electrical System

**1. Electrical Wire** ~~1. The guard must be able to pass through a straight cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 12 cm and a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel with the axis of the cylinder.~~

1. The foil must contain a single insulated electrical wire.
2. The wire must be securely affixed by glue within a groove along the entire length of the blade.
3. The wire must permanently connect the pointe d'arrêt to the socket.

**2. Electrical Resistance** ~~2. The blade must pass through the centre of the guard. The diameter of the guard must be between 9.5 cm and 12 cm.~~

1. The total electrical resistance of the foil must not exceed 2 ohms.
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures.

**3. Circuit Function**

1. When the tip assembly is not depressed, the circuit must be closed.
2. When the tip assembly is depressed in accordance with this Book, the circuit must be interrupted.
3. The electrical characteristics of the foil must be compatible with the central judging apparatus (see Chapter 4 and m.43).

---

**Proposal 52**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.10**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.10 "Electric wire" (old m.10) describes only the single electric wire glued in the blade groove connecting the pointe d'arrêt to the socket. The restructured Article m.10 "Foil Tip Assembly" is a comprehensive article covering all tip assembly components, materials, dimensions, mounting, construction, travel, circuit function, and pressure requirements. Content draws from old m.11 (pointe d'arrêt dimensions from old m.11.1–2, pressure from old m.11.3, travel from old m.11.4, mounting from old m.11.5, circuit from old m.11.6) and old m.13.2 (flange diameter). New provisions are added for tip assembly component listing, material requirements, spring construction, and barrel construction.

This reorganization:

1. Moves electric wire from old m.10 to new m.9
2. Creates a comprehensive tip assembly article
3. Draws pointe d'arrêt provisions from old m.11
4. Draws flange provision from old m.13.2
5. Adds new component, material, spring, and barrel provisions

---

~~**Electric wire**~~

## m.10. Foil Tip Assembly

### 1. Tip Assembly Components ~~1. The foil has a single wire, glued in a groove cut the whole length of the blade, which permanently connects the pointe d'arrêt to the corresponding socket inside the guard. The groove in the blade must be uppermost.~~

A tip assembly must consist of:

1. An insulated pointe d'arrêt
2. A flange that is smaller in diameter to the pointe d'arrêt
3. A spring
4. A barrel that is a separate hollow cylindrical body

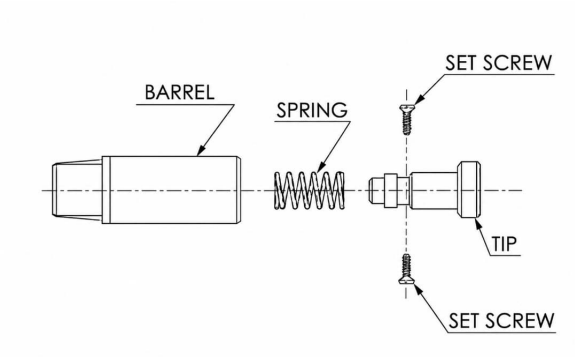



**Figure 6: Foil Tip Assembly**

### 2. Tip Assembly Material

1. The components of the tip assembly must be manufactured from materials that:
   a. Provide sufficient mechanical durability under normal competitive use;
   b. Maintain consistent electrical performance as required by this Book; and
   c. Resist corrosion or degradation that could affect safety or electrical function.
2. Material specifications and approved alloys must be defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Pointe d'arrêt — Dimensions**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical.
2. The front surface of the pointe d'arrêt is flat and perpendicular to its axis.
3. The diameter of the pointe d'arrêt must be between 5.5 mm and 7 mm.

**4. Pointe d'arrêt — Edge Dimension**

The edge of the pointe d'arrêt must be either:

1. Rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm; or
2. Chamfered at 45° with a width of 0.5 mm.

**5. Pointe d'arrêt — Mounting**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained within the barrel in at least two places equidistant from each other.
2. Other methods of mounting must be approved by the SEMI Commission.

**6. Flange — Construction**

1. The flange must be fixed to the pointe d'arrêt.2. The flange must have a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d'arrêt.

**7. Spring — Construction**

1. Springs must be manufactured from materials capable of maintaining their elastic properties under repeated compression during normal competitive use.
2. The spring must be capable of lifting a weight of 500 grams ±2 grams (see m.61 for required test weights).

**8. Barrel — Construction**

1. The barrel must be a length from 7–8 mm.
2. The barrel must have a smooth external surface.

**9. Tip Assembly — Travel**

1. The total travel of the pointe d'arrêt must not exceed 1 mm.
2. Travel must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures and the checking apparatus requirements (m.61) in the following way:
   a. Gauge measurement with a tolerance not exceeding ±0.05 mm (see m.57 and m.61 for tip travel gauges).

**10. Tip Assembly — Circuit Function**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must maintain electrical contact with the earth circuit of the foil when not depressed.

2. The circuit must be interrupted when the pointe d'arrêt is depressed.
3. No wrapping, coating, or artificial enlargement of the blade diameter must be permitted.

**11. Tip Assembly — Pressure**

1. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt to interrupt the circuit must exceed 500 grams.
2. Pressure must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. A weight of 500g ±2 g must be lifted by the spring of the tip assembly (see m.61).

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**Proposal 53**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.11**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.11 "Pointe d'arrêt" (old m.11.1–m.11.6) describes pointe d'arrêt dimensions, cylindrical shape, pressure requirements, travel limits, retention methods, and earth circuit function. The restructured Article m.11 "Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface" covers the threaded interface between blade and tip assembly. Old m.11 pointe d'arrêt content moves to new m.10 "Foil Tip Assembly" (dimensions to m.10 sub 3–4; pressure to m.10 sub 11; travel to m.10 sub 9; mounting to m.10 sub 5; circuit to m.10 sub 10). New m.11 interface content draws from old m.12 "Method of affixing the button": general requirement from old m.12.1; minimum blade diameter from old m.12.4; threaded diameter from old m.12.5; groove dimensions from old m.12.7; barrel portion from old m.12.6; fixing method from old m.12.2–3. "Security of the Tip Assembly" is a new provision.

This reorganization:

1. Moves pointe d'arrêt provisions to new m.10
2. Creates a dedicated blade-tip interface article
3. Draws interface content from old m.12
4. Adds a new security provision

---

~~**Pointe d'arrêt**~~

**m.11. Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface**

**1. General Requirement** ~~1. The diameter of the pointe d'arrêt is between 5.5 mm and 7 mm; the diameter of the body of the button including its exterior insulation must not be more than 0.3 mm less than that of the pointe d'arrêt.~~

1. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of a threaded interface in accordance with the foil weapon.

2. Only fixing methods expressly permitted by this Book must be allowed.
3. The interface region is where the barrel is fixed to the blade.
4. The lighting stroke cannot exceed 1mm

**2. Minimum Blade Diameter** ~~2. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical; its front surface is flat and perpendicular to its axis. Its edge will either be rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm or have a chamfer of 0.5 mm at 45°.~~

Prior to threading, the blade must not have a diameter of less than 3.5 mm at any point within the interface region.

**3. Threaded Diameter — Blade** ~~3. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt, in order to break the contact and cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 500 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point. The weight of 500 g supplied by the Organising Committee may have a tolerance of ± 2 g.~~

The diameter of the threaded core (opposite to the widest part of the blade) at the edge of the blade must not be less than 2.7 mm (Threading — SI 3.5 × 0.60).

**4. Threaded Portion Length — Blade Groove** ~~4. The course or travel of the pointe d'arrêt required to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit, called the lighting stroke, may be infinitesimal: the total travel of the pointe d'arrêt must not be greater than 1 mm. The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm.~~

1. The width of the groove of the blade at the threaded portion must not exceed 0.5 mm.
2. The depth of the groove of the blade at the threaded portion must not exceed 0.6 mm.
3. Depth of the groove is measured on the diameter of the threaded core.

**5. Threaded Portion Length — Barrel** ~~5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button in at least two places equidistant from each other, or by any other method which has been approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

1. Only the forward half of this length must be threaded.
2. The remaining half must engage a smooth internal bore within the tip assembly.

**6. Fixing Method** ~~6. When not depressed the pointe d'arrêt is in contact with the earth circuit of the foil. When a hit is made, this contact must be broken.~~

1. Only metal-to-metal fixing must be permitted.
2. Soldering, brazing, or any heating process that may alter the temper or mechanical properties of the blade is prohibited.
3. Alternative fixing methods may be authorized after approval of the SEMI Commission.
4. The threaded interface must not loosen under normal competitive use.
5. Material wrapped around the surface of the bare blade is prohibited (see m.2 for general safety and circumvention rules).

**7. Security of the Tip Assembly**

1. The tip assembly must remain securely engaged with the threaded portion of the blade during normal competitive use.
2. If the tip assembly becomes loose, disengaged, or partially unscrewed, the foil must be deemed non-compliant and must not be used until properly repaired.
3. No external clips, locking devices, or additional components may be added outside the defined tip assembly in order to secure the tip.
4. Only components forming part of the approved tip assembly design must be permitted (see m.59–m.60).

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**Proposal 54**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.12**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.12 “Method of affixing the button” (old m.12.1–m.12.8) describes button base threading, fixing methods, soldering prohibition, minimum blade diameter, thread core diameter, button length and threading specifications, groove dimensions, and SEMI verification authority. The restructured Article m.12 “Foil Insulation” covers insulation coverage and materials. Old m.12 button-affixing content is redistributed to new m.11 “Foil Blade-Tip Assembly Interface”: general threading (old m.12.1) to new m.11 “General Requirement”; fixing method (old m.12.2) and soldering (old m.12.3) to new m.11 “Fixing Method”; blade diameter (old m.12.4) to new m.11 “Minimum Blade Diameter” and new m.7 “Blade Tip”; thread diameter (old m.12.5) to new m.11 “Threaded Diameter”; button length (old m.12.6) to new m.10 “Barrel — Construction” and new m.11 “Threaded Portion Length”; groove (old m.12.7) to new m.11 “Threaded Portion Length — Blade Groove”; verification (old m.12.8) to Chapter 5 Weapons Control. New m.12 insulation content draws from old m.13 “The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle” (old m.13.1 insulation coverage; old m.13.2 flange dimension).

This reorganization:

1. Moves button-affixing provisions to new m.11
2. Creates a dedicated insulation article
3. Draws insulation content from old m.13
4. Redistributes old m.12.8 verification to Chapter 5

---

~~**Method of affixing the button**~~

**m.12. Foil Insulation**

**1. Insulation Coverage** ~~1. The base of the button must be screwed onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions.~~

1. The cylindrical body of the tip assembly and the blade must be fully covered with insulating material.
2. Insulating material must extend rearward from the edge of the barrel along the blade for a length of 15 cm ±1 cm.
3. The insulation must be continuous from the barrel onto the blade, with no uninsulated gap at the junction.

**2. Insulation Materials** ~~2. Normally, only fixing by metal-to-metal is allowed. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.~~

Insulation must consist of adhesive tape, gummed paper, Sellotape, varnish, or plastic material (see m.43).

~~3. All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade are forbidden.~~

~~4. The end of the blade before cutting the thread must not have a diameter at any point of less than 3.5 mm, and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.~~

~~5. The diameter of the core of the thread must not be less than 2.7 mm (thread SI 3.5 x 0.60). The threading must be very tight.~~

~~6. The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7–8mm entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length at the extremity of the blade be threaded. For the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 3.5 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.~~

~~7. At the point at which the wire passes into the button, the width of the groove must not exceed 0.5 mm, and its depth must not exceed 0.6 mm measured on the diameter of the core of the thread, in order to weaken as little as possible the section of the blade.~~

~~8. Only the members of the SEMI Committee of the FIE or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.~~

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**Proposal 55**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.13**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.13 “The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle” (old m.13.1–m.13.2) describes foil insulation coverage and flange diameter requirements. The restructured Article m.13 “Épée General Characteristics” replaces this with an épée-specific nature statement. Old m.13 insulation content is redistributed: insulation coverage (old m.13.1) to new

m.12 “Foil Insulation — Insulation Coverage”; flange dimension (old m.13.2) to new m.10 “Foil Tip Assembly — Flange Construction.”

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear épée-specific introduction article
2. Redistributes old foil insulation content to new m.12 and m.10
3. Begins the Épée Specific Requirements section (Part 3)

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~~The insulation of the button, the blade and the handle~~ **Part 3: Épée Specific Requirements**

### m.13. Épée General Characteristics

**1. Nature of the Weapon** ~~1. The body of the button and the foil blade for a length of 15 cm +/- 1cm from the button must be entirely covered with insulating material (insulating tape, gummed paper, Sellotape, plastic material or varnish).~~

The épée is a thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of a spring-loaded tip connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

~~2. The flange of the sleeve which slides in the base of the point and within which is fixed the pointe d'arrêt must be of a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d'arrêt itself, to obviate an accidental contact being made with the conductive jacket when a hit is made.~~

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**Proposal 56**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.14**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.14 “Weight” (old m.14) contains only the épée total weight limit (770 g). The restructured Article m.14 “Épée Dimensions and Weight” consolidates all épée dimensional and weight limits. “Maximum Total Length” draws from old m.15 (110 cm); “Maximum Blade Length” from old m.16.3 (90 cm); “Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear” from old m.17.2 (95.5 cm); “Maximum Weight” expands old m.14 with component definitions and measurement procedures.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all épée dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.15, blade length from old m.16.3, guard rear length from old m.17.2
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

~~**Weight**~~

## m.14. Épée Dimensions and Weight

**1. Maximum Total Length** ~~The total weight of the épée ready for use is less than 770 g.~~

The total length of the épée, measured between plane A and plane E, must not exceed 110 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

**2. Maximum Blade Length**

The blade length, measured between plane A and plane B of a straight blade, must not exceed 90 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

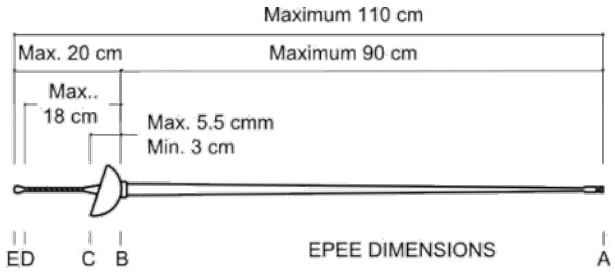



**Figure 7: Épée dimensions and planes**

**3. Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear**

The total length between planes A and C must never be greater than 95.5 cm (see Figure 7, m.4, and m.57).

**4. Maximum Weight**

1. For the purposes of Épée, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket assembly, tip assembly, and internal wiring.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the épée ready for use must be less than 770 g (see m.55–m.57).
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures.

**Proposal 57**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.15**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.15 “Length” (old m.15) contains only the épée maximum total length (110 cm). The restructured Article m.15 “Épée Blade” consolidates all blade provisions. “Cross Section” draws from old m.16.1 (triangular section); “Material” from old m.16.1 (steel/Annexe A); “Orientation” from old m.16.2 (groove uppermost); “Maximum Width” from old m.16.4 (24 mm); “Flexibility” from old m.16.5 (4.5–7 cm); “Curvature” from old m.16.2 (max 1 cm).

This reorganization:

1. Gathers all blade characteristics from old m.16 into a dedicated blade article
2. Moves total length to new m.14
3. Adds measurement verification references
4. References Weapons Control procedures

---

~~**Length**~~

**m.15. Épée Blade**

**1. Cross Section** ~~The total maximum length of the épée is 110 cm (cf m.3).~~

The blade must be triangular in section without cutting edges.

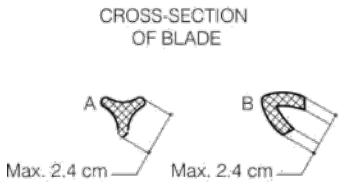



**Figure 8: Cross-section of épée blade**

**2. Material**

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Orientation**

1. The blade must be mounted with the widest face horizontal.
2. The groove must be positioned uppermost.

## 4. Maximum Width

The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is 24 mm.

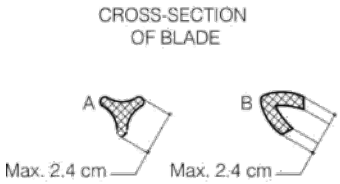



**Figure 9: Maximum width of a side of the épée blade**

## 5. Flexibility

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend between 4.5 cm and 7 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from Plane A.
   c. The bend of the blade is measured from Plane A between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 10).

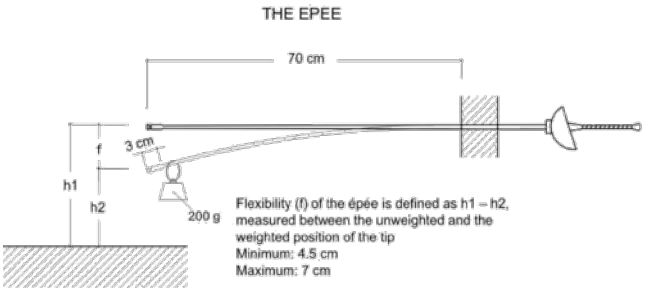



**Figure 10: Épée blade flexibility verification**

## 6. Curvature

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 1 cm.
2. The curvature must only be in the vertical plane.
3. The curvature must be near the center of the blade.
4. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.

b. The position of the curve is uppermost.

c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade.

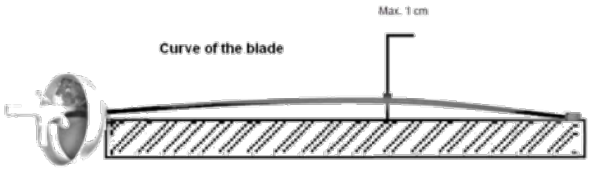



**Figure 11: Épée blade curvature**

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**Proposal 58**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.16**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.16 “The blade” (old m.16.1–m.16.5) describes the épée blade section, curvature, blade length, maximum width, and flexibility. The restructured Article m.16 “Épée Guard” covers guard depth, eccentric mounting, padding, and gauge compliance. Old m.16 blade content is redistributed: triangular section (old m.16.1) to new m.15 “Cross Section”; curvature (old m.16.2) to new m.15 “Curvature”; blade length (old m.16.3) to new m.14 “Maximum Blade Length”; max width (old m.16.4) to new m.15 “Maximum Width”; flexibility (old m.16.5) to new m.15 “Flexibility.” New m.16 guard content draws from old m.17 (guard gauge/depth/eccentricity) and old m.5 (padding).

This reorganization:

1. Moves all blade provisions from old m.16 to new m.15
2. Creates a dedicated épée guard article
3. Draws guard content from old m.17 and old m.5
4. Adds padding provision from old m.5

---

~~**The blade**~~

**m.16. Épée Guard**

**1. Guard Depth** ~~1. The blade, which is triangular in section without cutting edges, is made of steel and must comply with the safety standards described in Annexe A to the Rules.~~

The depth of the guard (the distance between planes B and C) must be between 3 cm and 5.5 cm (see Figure 7).

**2. Eccentric Mounting Option** ~~2. It should be as straight as possible and mounted with the groove uppermost. Any curve of the blade must be uniform and the maximum bend must in any case be less than 1 cm; it is only permitted in the vertical plane and must be near the centre of the blade. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i) the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii) the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 9).~~

The distance between the center of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the guard must not exceed 3.5 cm.

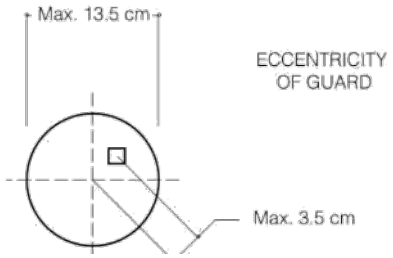



**Figure 12: Épée guard eccentricity limits**

**3. Padding** ~~3. The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm. (cf. m.3).~~

1. The interior must contain padding of cushioning material.
2. Padding must not exceed 2 cm in thickness.

**4. Gauge Compliance** ~~4. The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is 24 mm.~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The guard must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm and a length of 15 cm.
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the cylinder.

~~5. The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of 4.5 cm minimum and 7 cm maximum measured in the following way. a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the extremity of the button. b. A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is suspended 3 cm from the extremity of the button. c. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and weighted positions (see Figure 9).~~

**Proposal 59**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.17**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.17 “The guard (cf. m.5)” (old m.17.1–m.17.3) describes the épée guard gauge (13.5 cm diameter), total length to guard rear (95.5 cm), and eccentric mounting (3.5 cm offset). The restructured Article m.17 “Épée Socket Assembly” covers the socket block and wire passage. Old m.17 guard content is redistributed: gauge (old m.17.1) to new m.16 “Gauge Compliance”; guard depth (old m.17.1) to new m.16 “Guard Depth”; total length to guard rear (old m.17.2) to new m.14 “Maximum Total Length to Guard Rear”; eccentric mounting (old m.17.3) to new m.16 “Eccentric Mounting Option.” New m.17 socket content draws from old m.18.3 (socket block with separate holes).

This reorganization:

1. Moves guard gauge/depth/eccentricity to new m.16
2. Moves total-to-guard-rear length to new m.14
3. Creates a dedicated socket assembly article
4. Draws socket content from old m.18

---

~~**The guard (cf. m.5)**~~

**m.17. Épée Socket Assembly**

**1. Socket Assembly** ~~1. The guard, which must have a circular edge, must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm and a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel to the axis of the cylinder. The depth of the guard (the distance between lines B and C) must be between 3 cm and 5.5 cm (cf. m.3).~~

1. The socket assembly must be 3 separate sockets held in position by a block.
2. The socket must have two separate holes in the block.

~~2. The total length between lines A and C must never be greater than 95.5 cm (cf. m.3).~~

~~3. Eccentric mounting is allowed provided the distance between the centre of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the guard does not exceed 3.5 cm.~~

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**Proposal 60**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.18**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.18 “Electric wires” (old m.18.1–m.18.3) describes the épée’s two electric wires, handle notch for wire passage, and socket block requirements. The restructured Article m.18 “Épée Handle” covers the handle covering restriction for orthopaedic handles. Old m.18 electric wire content is redistributed: two wires in groove (old m.18.1) to new m.19 “Electrical Wire”; handle notch (old m.18.2) to new m.3 handle provisions; socket block (old m.18.3) to new m.17 “Épée Socket Assembly.” New m.18 handle content draws from old m.4.3 (épée orthopaedic handle restriction).

This reorganization:

1. Moves electric wire provisions to new m.19
2. Moves socket block to new m.17
3. Creates a dedicated handle article
4. Draws handle restriction from old m.4.3

---

~~**Electric wires**~~

**m.18. Épée Handle**

**1. Épée Handle** ~~1. The épée has two electric wires, glued in a groove in the blade, which connect the button to two of the three sockets situated inside the guard and which form the active circuit of the épée. The earth circuit of the épée is connected to the third socket.~~

Orthopedic handles, whether metal or not, may not be covered with leather or any material which could hide wires or switches.

~~2. The handle must have, at the end which is in contact with the guard, a notch of 2 mm minimum depth, which allows the electric wires and their insulating sheaths to pass towards the sockets inside the guard without being squashed. (cf m.31.7)~~

~~3. The socket inside the epee guard must have two separate holes in the block, so that the two wires can be passed through the block separately and then connected to the terminals.~~

---

**Proposal 61**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.19**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.19 “Pointe d’arrêt and button” (old m.19.1–m.19.5) describes the épée pointe d’arrêt specifications, pressure, test weight, travel requirements, and retention. The restructured Article m.19 “Épée Electrical System” covers the electrical wire, wire-socket assembly, resistance, and circuit function. Old m.19 pointe d’arrêt content is redistributed to new m.20 “Épée Tip Assembly” (dimensions from old m.19.1; pressure from old m.19.2; travel from old m.19.4; mounting from old m.19.5). New m.19 electrical content draws from old m.18 (two wires and socket connections), old m.5.4 (2-ohm resistance limit), and new provisions for circuit function.

This reorganization:

1. Moves pointe d’arrêt provisions to new m.20
2. Creates a dedicated electrical system article
3. Draws wire/socket content from old m.18
4. Consolidates resistance and circuit provisions

---

~~**Pointe d’arrêt and button**~~

## m.19. Épée Electrical System

**1. Electrical Wire** ~~1. The electric button is completed by a pointe d’arrêt which must conform to the following specifications. It must be easy to apply the pointe d’arrêt of the opponent’s weapon to the earth circuit connected to the blade. a. The pointe d’arrêt is cylindrical. Its front surface is flat and perpendicular to its axis. Its edge will either be rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm or have a chamfer of 0.5 mm at 45°. b. The diameter of the crown of the pointe d’arrêt is 8 mm with a tolerance of ± 0.05 mm. The diameter of the base must not be less than 7.7 mm. c. The flange (collar) which guides the pointe d’arrêt as well as the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown (it is recommended that it be reduced in diameter by 0.3–0.5 mm in relation to the crown) so that it shall not be possible to cause a hit to be registered merely by sliding the depressed pointe d’arrêt against the convex surface of the guard (cf. t.67.a).~~

1. The wires must permanently connect the pointe d’arrêt to the socket.
2. The épée must have two separate, individually insulated electrical wires.
3. Wires must be securely affixed by glue within the groove of the blade along the entire length of the blade.

**2. Wire-Socket Assembly** ~~2. The pressure required on the pointe d’arrêt in order to complete the circuit in the épée, and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 750 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point.~~

1. Each wire connects to one socket.
2. The earth circuit of the épée must be connected to the third socket.
3. Wires must have insulated sheaths that pass from the guard to the socket assembly.
4. In no case may uninsulated wires extend beyond the plug connections.
5. Each wire must be passed through the hole in the block separately and then connected to the socket terminals.

**3. Electrical Resistance** ~~3. The weight used to check competitors' épées on the piste consists of a metal cylinder drilled part of the way along its axis with a hole parallel to its sides; this hole, into which is inserted the end of the blade, must have an insulating lining to prevent its metallic parts coming into contact with the earthed mass of the épée which might then give a false result to the test. This weight of 750 g may have a tolerance of ± 3 g, i.e. 747–753 g.~~

1. The total electrical resistance of the épée must not exceed 2 ohms.
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures using an Ohm meter.

**4. Circuit Function** ~~4. a) The course or travel of the pointe d'arrêt required to complete the circuit in the épée and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, called the lighting stroke, must be greater than 1 mm. The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must be less than 0.5 mm. (This requirement is just as essential as that for the lighting stroke). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm. b. The total course or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm (cf. t.68.3). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of +/- 0.05mm. c. Adjusting the lighting stroke by means of screws or any other external fixing device, once the point has been assembled on the weapon, is forbidden (cf t.44.3). d. An external screw or similar fixing device is only allowed if it is actually part of the assembling of the point. e. The head of the screw or fixing device must never project beyond the flat top surface of the point and its housing in the flat surface may not exceed 2 mm in diameter.~~

1. When the tip assembly is not depressed, the active circuit must be open.
2. When the tip assembly is depressed in accordance with this Book, the active circuit must be completed.

~~5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button at at least two points equally spaced, or by any other system approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

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**Proposal 62**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.20**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.20 "Method of affixing the button" (old m.20.1–m.20.6) describes the épée button base threading, fixing method, blade diameter, thread specifications, groove requirements, and SEMI verification authority. The restructured Article m.20 "Épée Tip Assembly" is a comprehensive article covering general construction, components, materials, dimensions, edge treatment, mounting, flange, barrel base, spring, travel, pressure, adjustment prohibition, and circuit

function. Content draws from old m.19 (pointe d'arrêt dimensions from old m.19.1, pressure from old m.19.2, travel from old m.19.4, mounting from old m.19.5) and adds new provisions for components, materials, spring, and barrel construction.

This reorganization:

1. Moves button-affixing provisions to new m.21
2. Creates a comprehensive épée tip assembly article
3. Draws pointe d'arrêt provisions from old m.19
4. Adds new component, material, and construction provisions

---

~~**Method of affixing the button**~~

**m.20. Épée Tip Assembly** ~~If the base of the button is not made in one piece with the blade, or if it does not permit the flattened inset piece at the tip of the blade to be retained, the button must be screwed onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions.~~

**1. General Construction** ~~1. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorised after approval by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

It must be easy to apply the pointe d'arrêt of the opponent's weapon to the earth circuit.

**2. Tip Assembly Components** ~~2. The end of the blade, before cutting the thread, must not have a diameter at any point which is less than 4 mm and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.~~

A tip assembly must consist of:

1. An insulated pointe d'arrêt.
2. A flange that is smaller in diameter to the pointe d'arrêt.
3. Spring(s).
4. A barrel that is a separate hollow cylindrical body.

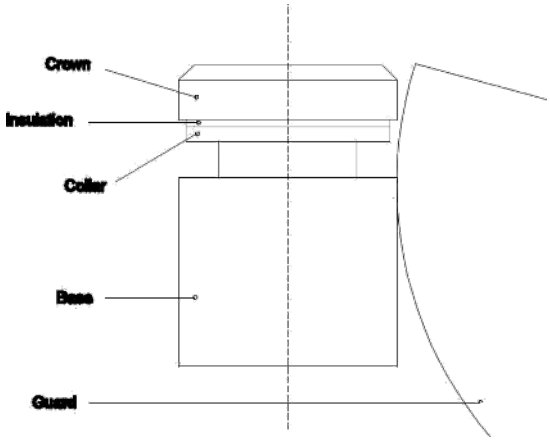



**Figure 13: Notional drawing of épée tip assembly**

**3. Tip Assembly Material** ~~3. a) The diameter of the core of thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm (thread SI 4.0 x 0.70). b) The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7–8 mm entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length, at the extremity of the blade, be threaded. For the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 4.0 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.~~

1. The components of the tip assembly must be manufactured from materials that:
   a. Provide sufficient mechanical durability under normal competitive use;
   b. Maintain consistent electrical performance as required by this Book; and
   c. Resist corrosion or degradation that could affect safety or electrical function.
2. Material specifications and approved alloys must be defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**4. Pointe d'arrêt — Dimensions and Shape** ~~4. The groove necessary to enable the wires to enter the button must be cut in such a way that it weakens as little as possible the section of the blade.~~

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be cylindrical.
2. The front surface of the pointe d'arrêt is flat and perpendicular to its axis.
3. The diameter of the crown of the pointe d'arrêt must be 8 mm ±0.05 mm.

**5. Pointe d'arrêt — Edge Treatment** ~~5. Only the members of the SEMI Committee of the FIE or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.~~

The edge of the pointe d'arrêt must be either:

1. Rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm; or
2. Chamfered at 45° with a width of 0.5 mm.

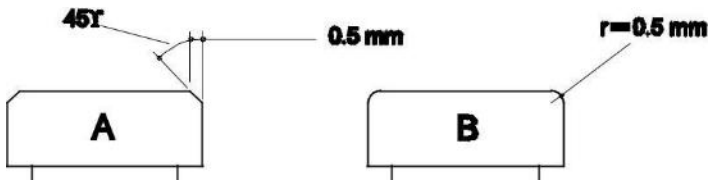



**Figure 14: Examples of épée pointe d'arrêt edge treatment**

**6. Pointe d'arrêt — Mounting**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained within the button in at least two places equidistant from each other.
2. Other methods of mounting must be approved by the SEMI Commission.

## 7. Flange Construction

1. The flange guides the pointe d'arrêt.
2. The flange and the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown.
3. The flange must be recessed in diameter between 0.3–0.5 mm in relation to the crown.
4. The flange must not allow a hit to be registered by sliding the depressed pointe d'arrêt against the convex surface of the guard.

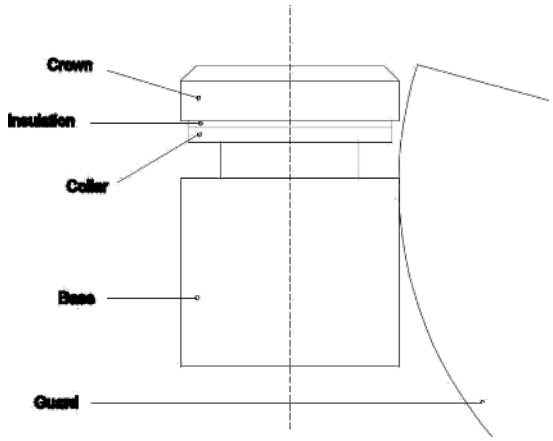



**Figure 15: Example of convex guard and épée tip hit**

## 8. Barrel Base — Dimensions

The diameter of the base (barrel) must not be less than 7.7 mm.

## 9. Spring — Construction

1. Springs must be manufactured from materials capable of maintaining their elastic properties under repeated compression during normal competitive use.
2. The spring must be capable of lifting a weight of 750 g ±2 g.

## 10. Tip Assembly — Travel

1. The travel of the pointe d'arrêt before a hit is registered must be greater than 1 mm.
2. The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must be less than 0.5 mm.
3. The total course or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm.
4. Travel must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures and the checking apparatus requirements in m.61 in the following way:
   a. The gauge must have a tolerance of a maximum of ± 0.05 mm.

## 11. Tip Assembly — Pressure

1. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt must be more than 750 to complete the circuit.

2. Pressure must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. A weight of 750 g ±3 grams must be lifted by the spring of the point d'arrêt.

**12. Tip Assembly — Adjustment Prohibition**

1. Adjusting the tip assembly by means of screws or any other external fixing device, once the point has been assembled on the weapon, is forbidden.
2. External screws or similar fixings are permitted only when they are essential for the tip assembly.
3. The head of the screw or fixing device must never project beyond the flat top surface of the point.
4. The head of the screw or fixing device must not exceed 2 mm in diameter beyond the external flat surface of the barrel.

**13. Tip Assembly — Circuit Function**

1. The pointe d'arrêt must maintain an open circuit when not depressed.
2. The circuit must be completed when the pointe d'arrêt is depressed in accordance with this Book.

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**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.21**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.21 "Length" (old m.21) contains the sabre maximum total length (105 cm). The restructured Article m.21 "Épée Blade-Tip Assembly Interface" covers the threaded interface between épée blade and tip assembly. The old m.21 sabre length moves to new m.23 "Sabre Dimensions and Weight." New m.21 interface content draws from old m.20 "Method of affixing the button": general requirement from old m.20.1; fixing method from old m.20.2; blade diameter from old m.20.3; thread diameter from old m.20.4a; blade tip length from old m.20.4b; groove from old m.20.5. "Prohibited Methods" draws from old m.20 soldering prohibition (general principle).

This reorganization:

1. Moves sabre length to new m.23
2. Creates a dedicated épée blade-tip interface article
3. Draws interface content from old m.20
4. Adds groove treatment and prohibited methods provisions

---

~~**Length**~~

## m.21. Épée Blade-Tip Assembly Interface ~~The total maximum length of the sabre is 105 cm (cf m.3).~~

### 1. General Requirement

1. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade.
2. Only fixing methods expressly permitted by this Book must be allowed.
3. The interface region is where the button is fixed to the blade.

### 2. Interface Region — Conditions

The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of either:

a. The tip assembly is made in one piece with the blade; OR

b. The blade is securely retained by the tip assembly; OR

c. The tip assembly must be securely fixed to the blade by means of a threaded interface in accordance with the épée weapon.

### 3. Fixing Method

1. Normally, only fixing by metal to metal is allowed.
2. However, fixing by any material of great mechanical strength may be authorized after approval by the SEMI Commission of the FIE.

### 4. Minimum Blade Diameter

1. Prior to threading, the blade must not have a diameter of less than 4 mm at any point within the interface region.
2. It is forbidden to have anything wrapped around the blade at the interface region.

### 5. Threaded Core Diameter

The diameter of the core of thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm (Threading SI 4.0 x 0.70).

### 6. Threaded Blade Tip Length

1. The part of the blade on which the tip assembly is fixed must be of a length of 7–8 mm.
2. The tip assembly must fully cover the threaded length of the blade tip.

### 7. Internally Threaded Barrel Length

1. It is recommended that only the half of the internal barrel length, at the extremity of the blade, be threaded.

2. For the other half the internal barrel will have a smooth surface of 4 mm diameter into which it should take some force for the corresponding part of the blade to be introduced.

**8. Groove Treatment**

The groove at the blade tip must cut in such a way that it weakens as little as possible the section of the blade.

**9. Prohibited Methods**

All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade and the blade tip are forbidden.

---

**Proposal 64**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.22**

**Motivation:**. The current Article m.22 “Weight” (old m.22) contains only the sabre total weight limit (500 g). The restructured Article m.22 “Sabre General Characteristics” replaces this with a sabre-specific nature statement. Old m.21 length content moves to new m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight — Maximum Total Length.”

This reorganization:

1. Creates a clear sabre-specific introduction article
2. Moves the total length provision to the dedicated dimensions article (new m.23)
3. Begins the Sabre Specific Requirements section (Part 4)

---

~~**Weight**~~ **Part 4: Sabre Specific Requirements**

**m.22. Sabre General Characteristics** ~~The total maximum length of the sabre is 105 cm (cf m.3).~~

**1. Nature of the Weapon**

The sabre is a cutting and thrusting weapon designed to register a valid touch by means of contact with the edge, flat, or point of the blade upon the valid target connected to an electrical scoring apparatus.

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**Proposal 65**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.23**

**Motivation:**. The current Article m.23 “The blade” (old m.23.1–m.23.4) describes the sabre blade’s steel composition, rectangular section, maximum length (88 cm), button construction, curvature limits, and flexibility requirements. The restructured Article m.23 “Sabre Dimensions and Weight” consolidates all sabre dimensional and weight limits into one article. “Maximum Total Length” draws from old m.21 (105 cm); “Maximum Blade Length” from old m.23.1 (88 cm); “Maximum Handle Length” from old m.4.1 (17 cm for sabre); “Maximum Weight” expands old m.22 with component definitions and measurement procedures.

This reorganization:

1. Groups all sabre dimension and weight limits in one article
2. Draws total length from old m.21, blade length from old m.23.1, handle length from old m.4.1
3. Adds explicit weight measurement definitions
4. References Chapter 5 Weapons Control procedures

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~~**The blade (see Figure 13)**~~

**m.23. Sabre Dimensions and Weight**

**1. Maximum Total Length** ~~1. The blade, which must be of steel, is approximately rectangular in section. The maximum length of the blade is 88 cm. The minimum width of the blade, which must be at the button, is 4 mm; its minimum thickness, also measured immediately below the button, must be at least 1.2 mm.~~

The total length of the sabre, measured between Plane A and Plane E of a straight blade, must not exceed 105 cm (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

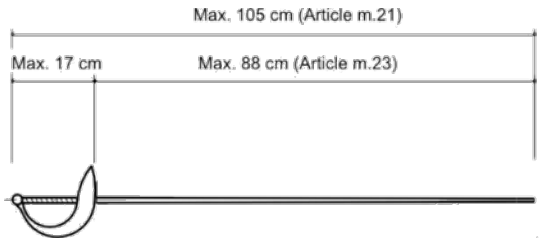



**Figure 16: Dimensions of the sabre**

**2. Maximum Blade Length** ~~2. The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself or be fashioned in one piece to form a button which, viewed end on, must have a square or~~

~~rectangular section of 4 mm minimum and 6 mm maximum. The maximum dimension must be not more than 3 mm from the end of the blade.~~

The blade length, measured between Plane A and Plane B, must not exceed 88 cm (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

**3. Maximum Handle Length** ~~3. If the blade has a curve, it must be a distinct curve which must be continuous, and the deflection must be less than 4 cm. Blades with sharply bent extremities or which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden. The curve of the blade must be measured as follows: i. the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost; ii. the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 13).~~

The maximum length of the handle is 17 cm, measured between Plane B and Plane E (see Figure 16, m.4 and m.57).

**4. Maximum Weight** ~~4. The sabre blade must have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of minimum 4 cm and maximum 7 cm measured in the following way. a) The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the tip of the blade. b) A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is hung 1 cm from the tip. c) The curve is measured at the tip of the blade between the weighted and unweighted positions (see Figures 12 and 13).~~

1. For the purposes of sabre, total weight must mean the assembled weapon including the blade, tang, guard, handle, pommel or locking nut, socket, and insulation.
2. The body cord must not be included in the weight measurement.
3. The total weight of the sabre must be less than 500 g (see m.55–m.57).
4. Weight must be determined in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures.

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**Proposal 66**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.24**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.24 “The guard” (old m.24.1–m.24.7) describes the sabre guard’s shape, gauge compliance, socket, electrical circuit, interior and exterior insulation, and handle/pommel insulation. The restructured Article m.24 “Sabre Blade” breaks these into dedicated sub-sections. “Cross Section” draws from old m.23.1 (rectangular section); “Material” is new (references Materials Homologation Handbook); “Surface Condition” is new (hazardous surface prohibition); “Blade Width” draws from old m.23.1 (4 mm minimum width) and old m.23.2 (tip dimensions); “Blade Profile, Thickness and Tip Geometry” consolidates old m.23.1 (thickness) and old m.23.2 (button/tip construction); “Flexibility” draws from old m.23.4; “Curvature” draws from old m.23.3.

This reorganization:

1. Breaks the single blade article into dedicated sub-sections for each characteristic
2. Adds explicit material and surface condition requirements
3. Separates curvature from flexibility into distinct sub-sections
4. References Weapons Control procedures for verification

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~~**The guard (cf. m.5)**~~

**m.24. Sabre Blade**

**1. Cross Section** ~~1. The guard must be full in shape, made in one piece and externally smooth. It must have a convex form which is continuous, without rim or holes.~~

The blade must be approximately rectangular in cross-section.

**2. Material** ~~2. It must be able to pass through a rectangular gauge measuring 15 cm by 14 cm in section, with a length of 15 cm, the blade being parallel with the longitudinal axis of the gauge.~~

The blade must be manufactured to the material requirements set out in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Surface Condition** ~~3. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the bodywire is plugged, whatever system is used.~~

The blade must not be sharpened, ground, heated, or otherwise treated in a manner that creates a hazardous surface between the guard and the tip.

**4. Blade Width** ~~4. The two sockets of the bodywire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard, making a closed electrical circuit through the bodywire, the spool and the cable connecting the spool to the scoring apparatus.~~

The minimum width of the blade, measured at the tip, must be 4 mm (see Figure 17).

The widest section of the tip must be no more than 3 mm from Plane A.

The width of the blade at Plane A of the tip must be a minimum of 4 mm and a maximum of 6 mm.

The thickness of the blade at the base of the tip must be at least 1.2 mm.

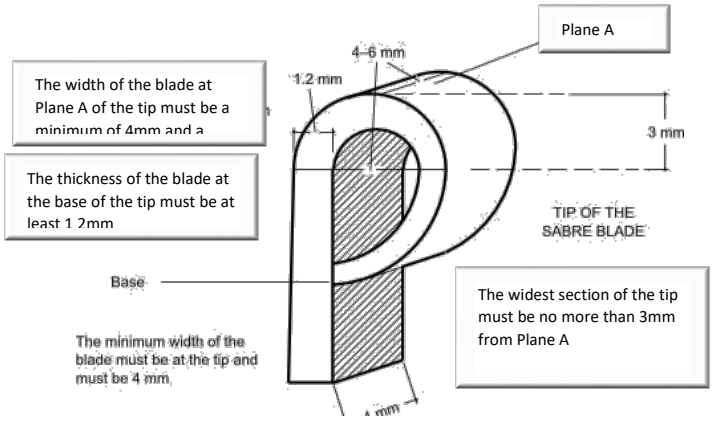



**Figure 17: Blade with dimensions**

**5. Blade Profile, Thickness and Tip Geometry** ~~5. The interior of the guard must be completely insulated by means of insulating paint or a pad.~~

1. The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself or fashioned in one piece to form the sabre tip.
2. The tip, when viewed end-on, must have a square or rectangular section.
3. The tip section must be a minimum of 4 mm to a maximum of 6 mm.
4. The maximum dimension must be located not more than 3 mm from the end of the blade (Plane A).
5. The minimum thickness of the blade, measured immediately below the tip, must be at least 1.2 mm.

**6. Flexibility** ~~6. The exterior of the guard must be insulated for 7–8 cm from the pommel.~~

1. The blade must demonstrate flexibility corresponding to a bend of minimum 4 cm and maximum 7 cm.
2. Flexibility must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the tip of the blade.
   b. A 200 g weight (tolerance ±1 g) is suspended 1 cm from the tip.

c. The bend is measured at the tip of the blade between the weighted and unweighted positions (see Figure 18).

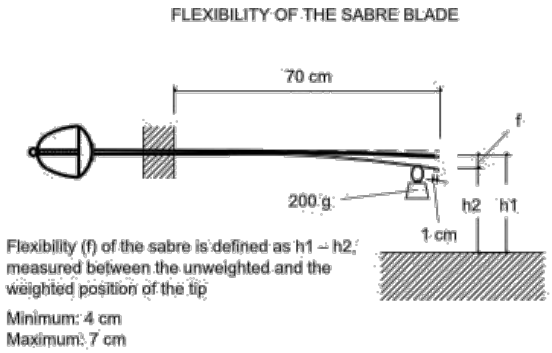



**Figure 18: Flexibility of the sabre blade**

**7. Curvature** ~~7. The handle and the pommel must be completely insulated.~~

1. The blade must not exhibit a curvature exceeding 4 cm.
2. The curvature of the blade must be continuous.
3. The curve must be in the vertical plane only.
4. The curve must be near the center of the blade.
5. Blades with sharply bent extremities are forbidden.
6. Blades which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden.
7. Curvature must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The blade is placed on a flat surface.
   b. The position of the curve is uppermost.
   c. The measurement is maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade (see Figure 19).

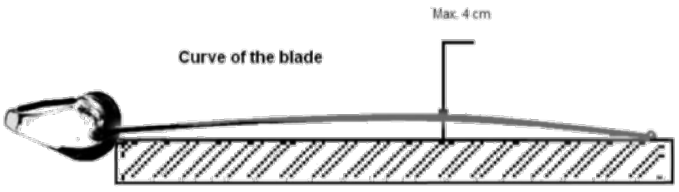



**Figure 19: Sabre blade curvature**

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**Proposal 67**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.25**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.25 refers to a chapter dedicated to equipment and clothing. The restructured Article m.25 “Sabre Guard and Guard Assembly” breaks these into ten dedicated sub-sections. “Guard Assembly” is new (defines assembly components); “Guard Geometry and Construction” draws from old m.24.1; “External Guard Surface Requirements” draws from old m.24.1 (smooth exterior); “Guard Mounting” is new; “Gauge Compliance” draws from old m.24.2; “Guard Interior Insulation” draws from old m.24.5; “Guard Exterior Insulation” draws from old m.24.6; “Socket Assembly” draws from old m.24.3; “Handle” and “Pommel” draw from old m.24.7 (split into separate sub-sections).

This reorganization:

1. Breaks the single guard article into dedicated sub-sections for each requirement
2. Adds explicit guard assembly definition and guard mounting requirements
3. Separates handle and pommel insulation into distinct sub-sections
4. References Weapons Control procedures for gauge verification

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~~**Chapter 2. Equipment and Clothing**~~

~~**General Conditions**~~

**m.25. Sabre Guard and Guard Assembly 1.** ~~1. Protection: The equipment and clothing must provide the competitor with the maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.~~

**1. Guard Assembly**

A guard assembly must consist of:

a. The guard

b. A socket assembly

c. A handle

d. A pommel

**2. Guard Geometry and Construction** ~~2. Safety: Fencers’ clothing must be clean and in good condition and with FIE Homologation label. It must not be possible for the opponent to be obstructed or injured by the equipment, nor for it to have either buckles or openings in which the opponent’s point may be caught up — except accidentally — and thus held or deflected. The jacket and its collar must be completely buttoned or done up~~

1. The guard must be full in shape.
2. The guard must be made in one piece.
3. The guard must have a continuous convex form.

4. The guard must not have a rim.
5. The guard must not have holes.

**3. External Guard Surface Requirements** ~~3. Characteristics of the clothing: a) The national uniform includes the socks, the breeches and the jacket. b) The material from which the equipment is made must not have a surface which is smooth enough to cause the pointe d'arrêt, the button or the opponent's hit to glance off (cf. m.30). c) Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches and trousers must be made entirely in cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons. Very particular attention must be paid to the way the seams under the armpits, if there are any, are made. The fastenings of the uniform, jacket and breeches, (typically zips), must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the fastenings in the direction of the fencer's armed arm (right handed from right to left – left handed from left to right). An under-garment consisting of a protective under-plastron covering the vital upper areas of the body (following the design given in Annexe A to these Rules, 'Safety norms for manufacturers') resistant to 800 Newtons is also obligatory. d) Fencers' clothing may be of different colours, apart from black. e) There shall be only one national uniform per country with the exception that the manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different. f) Logos (national strips) worn on the national clothing must be approved by the FIE Executive Committee; they are then published on the FIE website and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions. g) For all official FIE competitions, the wearing of national strips (logos) is compulsory on both legs, optional on the arm(s) (cf. t.74.2), and the logos must be identical. The logos must be identical for all fencers of the same federation. h) The family name of the fencer must be displayed on the back of the jacket, with the abbreviation of the national federation below it, at the level of the shoulder blades. They must be printed directly onto the jacket or onto a cloth entirely sewn onto the jacket. The letters must be in dark blue, in Roman capitals, between 8 cm and 10 cm high, and each stroke must be a maximum of 1.5 cm wide. A World Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in red for the following season. An Olympic Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in gold until the end of the next Olympic Games.~~

The guard must be externally smooth.

**4. Guard Mounting** ~~4. Jacket a) At all weapons, for men and ladies, the lower edge of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm when the fencer is in the on-guard position (cf. m.28, m.34). b) The jacket must include a lining making a double thickness of material for the sleeve down to the elbow of the sword arm and covering the flank up to the region of the armpit. At épée the fencer is required to wear a regulation jacket, which covers the whole of the surface of the trunk. c) At all weapons, the use of a breast/chest protector (made of metal or some rigid material) is compulsory for women and optional for men. At foil, this breast/chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron. At foil, the protector will have the following characteristics: The entire outside of the chest protector (the side facing the opponent) must be covered with a soft material such as E.V.A. (Ethylene-vinyl acetate) of four mm thickness and density of 22kg/m3. (The material can be attached to the current plastic models or incorporated into the manufacture of new chest protectors). The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge.~~

1. The guard must be mounted and fixed between the blade and the handle.
2. The convex face of the guard is toward Plane A (the tip).

**5. Gauge Compliance** ~~5. Breeches and socks a) The breeches must be fastened below the knees. b) With breeches, the fencer must wear socks which cover the legs right up to the breeches. These socks must be held up in such a way that they cannot fall down. c) The fencer is permitted to wear socks with a 10cm turn-over showing the colours of his national team.~~

~~d) Both socks worn by the fencer must be matching – the same design and colour.~~

The guard must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:

1. The sabre guard must pass through a rectangular gauge of 15 cm width by 14 cm length by a depth of 15 cm.
2. The blade must be parallel to the axis of the gauge.

**6. Guard Interior Insulation** ~~6. Glove At all weapons, the gauntlet of the glove must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor's sword arm to prevent the opponent's blade entering the sleeve of the jacket. Under no circumstances should there be any hole in the hand of the glove, even to allow the passage of the body wire. The closure of the glove should be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb~~.

1. The interior of the guard must be completely insulated.
2. Insulation must be by means of insulating paint or a pad.
3. The insulating material must prevent electrical contact between the guard body and internal components other than the designated socket connections.

**7. Guard Exterior Insulation** ~~7. Mask~~

~~a) The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm and from wires with a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter. The mask must include two different safety systems at the rear. b) Masks, at all weapons, must be made in accordance with the safety standards described in Annexe A to these Rules and must carry the quality label specified in those standards. c) The entire mesh of the mask must be able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument, the angle of the surface of the cone being at 4° to the axis and at a pressure of 12 kg. d) The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons. e) The mask must contain two different safety systems at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the straps of the systems firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask. These straps must meet the following requirements approved by the SEMI Commission and any retro-fitting to existing masks must be carried out by the original manufacturer.~~

~~Mask with metallic tongue~~

~~• The central band (strap) should not be less than 45 mm wide.~~

~~• The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region that the position of the strap on the head ensures that the mask cannot slide off.~~

~~• The band must be in solid material : when stretched the material should not sustain permanent plastic deformation and should quickly return to its original shape and size~~

~~• The fastening system must be doubled: it must be closed with a double security system (this means that the Velcro™ has to be attached at least twice).~~

~~• The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm~~

~~• The tags to which the strap is attached by Velcro must be secured to each side of the mask with the same breaking strain.~~

~~Mask without metallic tongue~~

~~• The position of the main strap must be low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off; the correct distance should be decided by the manufacturer (typically 25/30 mm).~~

~~• The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.~~

~~• The use of a magnetic strap, already existing, remains mandatory.~~

~~Please refer to the examples in the drawings below:~~

~~These images are only provided for information. When in doubt, the wording of the relevant text prevails.~~

1. The exterior of the guard must be insulated for a distance of 7–8 cm measured from Plane E (pommel).
2. This insulation must cover the portion of the guard nearest to the handle.

**8. Socket Assembly**

The socket assembly must be positioned between the guard and the handle (see m.39 for body wire requirements and m.45).

**9. Handle**

The handle must be completely insulated.

**10. Pommel**

The pommel must be completely insulated.

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**Proposal 68**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.26**

**Motivation:** There is no single old article corresponding to the new Article m.26 “Sabre Electrical System.” Electrical provisions were previously scattered across old m.24.3 (socket inside guard) and old m.24.4 (bodywire plug direct contact and electrical circuit). The restructured Article m.26

consolidates all sabre-specific electrical requirements into a dedicated article covering circuit function, socket assembly fixation, and electrical resistance.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated sabre electrical system article
2. Consolidates electrical provisions previously scattered in old m.24
3. Adds explicit electrical resistance limit (1 ohm) with verification procedure
4. References m.45 for sabre scoring apparatus requirements

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Glove (cf. m.25)**~~

**m.26. Sabre Electrical System** ~~The glove may be slightly padded.~~

**1. Circuit Function**

The socket assembly inclusive of the body wire plugs make a closed electrical circuit through the wires to the scoring apparatus.

**2. Socket Assembly — Fixation**

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket assembly.
2. The socket assembly must contain two sockets.
3. The two sockets and the body wire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard during fencing activity.
4. The socket must not include any part which allows unintended electrical contact to be made between the plug sockets.

**3. Electrical Resistance**

1. The maximum electrical resistance allowed must not exceed 1 ohm (see m.45).
2. Resistance must be verified in accordance with the Weapons Control procedures using an Ohm meter.

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**Proposal 69**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.27**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.27 “Mask” (old m.27, foil-specific) describes the foil mask mesh, bib conductivity, and means of connection requirements. The restructured Article m.27 “Equipment and Clothing General Requirements” replaces the foil-specific mask article with a comprehensive general requirements article for all equipment and clothing. The foil mask provisions from old m.27 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Foil). The restructured m.27 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 “General conditions” and breaks these into eight dedicated sub-sections covering Protection Standards, Safety Requirements, Material and Color Requirements, Homologation and Quality Labels, National Identification and Uniform Standards, National Logos, Name and Federation Display, and Effect of Marking on Function.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific mask article with a comprehensive general requirements article
2. Moves foil mask mesh, bib, and connection requirements to m.28 (Mask Requirements)
3. Draws general equipment and clothing provisions from old m.25 into the new Chapter 3 structure
4. Adds explicit homologation, national identification, and marking requirements as standalone sub-sections
5. Opens the new Chapter 3: Equipment and Clothing structure

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Mask (cf. m.25)**~~

## Chapter 3: Equipment and Clothing

### Part 1: General Provisions

Refers to parts, requirements, and definitions related to all equipment and clothing.

**m.27. Equipment and Clothing General Requirements 1.** ~~1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin. It must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.~~

**1. Protection Standards**

1. Equipment and clothing must provide the competitor with maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.
2. All protective equipment must meet FIE safety standards and, where required, homologation requirements (see Chapter 6, m.66-m.69).
3. The numerical resistance values and corresponding test methods are those defined in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook; compliance with those standards is mandatory for all equipment used in FIE competitions.

**2. Safety Requirements** ~~2. The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm below the chin, must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.~~

1. Fencers' clothing must be clean and in good condition.

2. Clothing and equipment must be maintained in a condition that does not compromise their protective function, structural integrity, or safety performance
3. All clothing and equipment covered by this Chapter must be worn and fastened in accordance with their approved design and any applicable FIE safety standard, so that full protective coverage is maintained during fencing.
4. All closures, including zips, buttons, hooks, straps, elastic, and hook-and-loop (Velcro) fasteners, must be fully closed or secured on the field of play and throughout each bout; a fencer must not begin or continue a bout if any required fastening is open, partially open, or otherwise not correctly secured.
5. Equipment must not include buckles or openings in which the opponent's point may be caught up — except accidentally — and thus held or deflected.
6. Equipment must not obstruct or injure the opponent beyond what results from normal, valid fencing actions (see m.2).

**3. Material Requirements and Color Requirements** ~~3. Means of connection: the electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed. The crocodile clips, the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the ends of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between the two crocodile clips) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Jackets, under-plastrons, breeches, and trousers must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material from which equipment is made must not have a surface smooth enough to cause the pointe d'arrêt, the tip, or the opponent's hit to glance off.
3. Seams in high-stress or vital areas, including under the arms and at the armpits, must maintain the same minimum perforation resistance as the surrounding material and must not create structural weaknesses or openings (m.69).
4. The fastenings of the uniform, jacket, and breeches (typically zips) must be protected by a flap sewn to cover the fastenings in the direction of the fencer's armed arm:
    a. Right-handed fencers: from right to left
    b. Left-handed fencers: from left to right
5. Fencers' clothing may be of different colors, apart from black.

**4. Homologation and Quality Labels**

1. All protective equipment must conform to the safety standards described in the relevant FIE safety documents and Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Equipment requiring homologation must display a valid homologation mark recognized under the applicable FIE safety standards and must be used only while that homologation remains valid.
3. Only equipment bearing valid homologation marks may be used in FIE competitions.

4. Use and validity of homologation marks are further governed by m.67-m.73

## 5. National Identification and Uniform Standards

1. For the purposes of these Rules, the national uniform consists of the jacket, breeches, and socks worn in official FIE competitions.
2. There must be only one national uniform design per country, with the exception that manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos may be different.
3. National identification is fulfilled by the compulsory, FIE-accepted national leg logo displayed on both legs; these markings must appear on the breeches and, where applicable, on any visible sock turnover.
4. Each federation may designate only one national leg-logo design for use in official FIE competitions; that design must be identical for all fencers of the same federation in the same competition, subject only to differences in manufacturers' marks and sponsors' logos.
5. Compliance with the national uniform standards may be checked at Weapons Control (see m.55-m.56)

## 6. National Logos

1. Logos worn on national clothing must be approved by the FIE Executive Committee for the federation concerned.
2. Approved national logo designs are published through official FIE channels and may thereafter be used in official FIE competitions (see m.69).
3. For all official FIE competitions:

a. The wearing of national logos is compulsory on both legs.

b. National logos are optional on the arm(s).

## 7. Name and Federation Display

1. The family name of the fencer must be displayed on the back of the jacket, with the abbreviation of the national federation below it, at the level of the shoulder blades.
2. Names and abbreviations must be printed directly onto the jacket or onto cloth entirely sewn onto the jacket.
3. Letters must conform to the following specifications:

a. Color: Dark Blue (suggested colors)

| Hex | RGB | CMYK (C, M, Y, K) approx. |
|---|---|---|
| #000040 | 0, 0, 64 | 100, 100, 0, 75 |
| #000068 | 0, 0, 104 | 100, 100, 0, 59 |
| #000080 | 0, 0, 128 | 100, 100, 0, 50 |

| Hex | RGB | CMYK (C, M, Y, K) approx. |
|---|---|---|
| #00008B | 0, 0, 139 | 100, 100, 0, 45 |
| #002366 | 0, 35, 102 | 100, 66, 0, 60 |
| #003366 | 0, 51, 102 | 100, 50, 0, 60 |

b. Style: Lettering must be set in an all-capitals sans-serif typeface of normal width (not condensed), such as Arial, Aptos, Calibri, Segoe UI, Verdana, Open Sans, or an equivalent font.

c. Height: between 8 cm and 10 cm

d. Stroke width: between 6mm to a maximum 1.5 cm

4. Letter dimensions may be checked at Weapons control (see m.55-m.57)

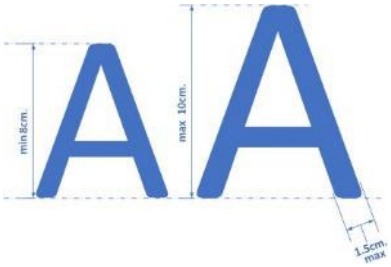



**Figure 20: Illustration of name lettering specifications**

5. The World Champion has the right to have their name and the abbreviation of their national federation printed in red for the following season.
6. An Olympic Champion has the right to have their name and the abbreviation of their national federation printed in gold until the end of the next Olympic Games.

## 8. Effect of Marking on Function

Any markings, colors, names, numbers, logos, or decorations, including paints, inks, transfers, or patches, applied to weapons, clothing, masks, or conductive pistes must not impair their safety performance or functional characteristics, including electrical conductivity and resistance limits specified in this Book.

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**Proposal 70**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.28**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.28 “Conductive jacket” (old m.28, foil-specific) describes the foil conductive over-jacket requirements, including target coverage, fastening, insulation, collar, lamé material, construction, and the non-conductive band. The restructured Article m.28 “Mask Requirements” replaces the foil-specific conductive jacket article with a comprehensive mask requirements article covering all three weapons. The foil conductive jacket provisions from old m.28 are now covered under m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements.” The restructured m.28 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 mask construction provisions and m.27 foil-specific mask provisions, and adds dedicated sub-sections for mesh specifications, bib requirements, safety retention systems, tongue configurations, dimensions, color, and weapon-specific additional requirements.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific conductive jacket article with a comprehensive mask requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves foil conductive jacket provisions to m.30 (Conductive Jacket Requirements)
3. Consolidates mask construction and safety requirements from old m.25 into dedicated sub-sections
4. Adds explicit mesh specifications, bib requirements, and safety retention system sub-sections
5. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific mask requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

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~~**Conductive jacket**~~ **Part 2: Mask**

**m.28. Mask Requirements 1.** ~~1. The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket which is worn over the protective jacket must cover the valid target of the fencer (cf. t.47) entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

**1. General Construction**

1. Masks must be constructed in accordance with the safety standards described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Masks must carry the quality label specified in those standards.
3. The mask must be made in one piece with proper structural integrity.

**2. Mesh Specifications** ~~2. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must cover a sufficient area to ensure that it covers the valid target in all positions of the fencer. The overlap must always be on the sword-arm side.~~

1. The mask must be made with meshes (space between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm.
2. The wires must have a minimum gauge of 1 mm diameter.

3. The entire mesh of the mask must be able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument having:
   a. An angle of the surface of the cone at 4° to the axis.
   b. A pressure of 12 kg.

**3. Bib Requirements** ~~3. The interior of conductive jackets must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the lamé material.~~

1. The bib of the mask must be made with cloth resistant to 1600 Newtons.
2. The bib must provide complete protection of the throat and neck area.
3. The bib must be securely attached to the mesh portion of the mask.

**4. Safety Retention Systems** ~~4. The conductive collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm and the foil conductive jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. The mask must include two different safety retention systems at the rear.
2. The two ends of the straps of the systems must be firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask.
3. Any retrofitting to existing masks must be carried out by the original manufacturer.
4. The safety retention systems must meet the requirements approved by the SEMI Commission.

**5. Mask with Metallic Tongue** ~~5. The lamé material used must be of conductive thread in both warp and weft. As regards electrical conductibility it must conform to the following requirements. a) The electrical resistance measured between any two points of the lamé material must not be greater than 5 ohms. The resistance will be measured by using a 500g conductive metal weight which has a hemispherical end with a radius of 4 mm. This weight, placed on this end and moved about on the lamé, must maintain continuous contact with a maximum resistance of 5 ohms. b) In no circumstances must the use of a conductive jacket be allowed if it has holes in it, or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit.~~

1. The central band (strap) must not be less than 45 mm wide.
2. The strap must be positioned low enough across the rear of the cervical region to ensure that the mask cannot slide off the head during fencing actions.
3. The band must be of solid material: when stretched, the material must not sustain permanent plastic deformation and must quickly return to its original shape and size.
4. The fastening system of the band must comply with all of the following:
   a. It must use a double security system, meaning that the Velcro™ must be attached at least twice.
   b. The Velcro™ must have a minimum breaking strain of 750 N/cm.

c. The strap must be secured to each side of the mask by tags to which it is attached by Velcro™, and those tags must have at least the same minimum breaking strain.

**6. Mask without Metallic Tongue** ~~6. The conductive jacket must be so made that when it is laid flat there is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium).~~

1. The strap must incorporate 3 fixing points.
2. The main strap must be positioned low enough to ensure that the mask cannot slide off the head during fencing actions.

**Figure 21: Mask with metallic tongue**

3. Where a magnetic strap system is part of the approved design, the use of the magnetic strap remains mandatory.




**Figure 22: Mask without metallic tongue**




**7. Dimensions and Fit** ~~7. The band of non-conductive material passing between the legs must be at least 3 cm wide (see Figure 14).~~

1. The mask must provide complete coverage of the head, face, and neck during all fencing positions.
2. The mask must fit securely without excessive movement during fencing actions.
3. The dimensions must conform to the standards specified in this Book and to the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**8. External Color and Color Designs**

Masks may feature colored designs on condition that they are approved by the FIE Executive Committee.



**9. Additional Requirements — Foil**

1. The mesh of the mask must not extend below the chin.
2. The mask must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material resistant to impact.
3. The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5–2 cm below the chin must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.
4. The electrical contact between the mask and the conductive jacket must be maintained throughout all fencing actions.
5. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other crocodile clip.
6. See m.37 for specific foil wire details.

**10. Additional Requirements — Sabre**

1. The entire mesh, bib of the mask, joined areas, and edges must be conductive.
2. The conductive surface must cover all valid target areas of the head as defined in the competition rules.
3. The mask must maintain electrical continuity with the conductive jacket.
4. The electrical contact between the mask and the conductive jacket must be maintained throughout all fencing actions.
5. The wire must be attached to the bib of the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with the other crocodile clip.
6. See m.38 for specific sabre wire details.

**11. Additional Requirements — Epee**

1. The mask must not be conductive.

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**Proposal 71**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.29**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.29 “Bodywire and attachment plugs” (old m.29, foil-specific) describes the foil bodywire insulation, plug construction, pin assignments, crocodile clip specifications, and guard-end attachment. The restructured Article m.29 “Jacket Requirements” replaces the foil-specific bodywire article with a comprehensive jacket requirements article for all weapons. The foil bodywire provisions from old m.29 are now covered under m.37 “Bodywire and Connection Requirements — Foil.” The restructured m.29 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 jacket and clothing provisions and consolidates jacket construction, material specifications, fastening, seam construction, and épée-specific requirements into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the foil-specific bodywire article with a comprehensive jacket requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves foil bodywire and plug provisions to m.37 (Bodywire and Connection Requirements — Foil)
3. Consolidates jacket construction and coverage requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material specifications, fastening, and seam construction sub-sections
5. Includes épée-specific jacket requirements as a dedicated additional requirements sub-section

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~~**Rules Specific to Foil**~~

~~**Bodywire and attachment plugs**~~ **Part 3: Jacket**

**m.29. Jacket Requirements 1.** ~~1. a) The conductive wires of the bodywire must be well insulated electrically from each other, twisted or joined together, and not be affected by humidity. b) This bodywire has a connecting plug which must be made of a transparent material at each end. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire. c) The electrical resistance of each of these conductive wires (plug to plug and plug to crocodile clip) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

**1. Jacket General Requirements**

1. The lower edge of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm when the fencer is in the on-guard position.
2. The jacket must include a lining making a double thickness of material for:
   a. The sleeve down to the elbow of the sword arm
   b. The flank up to the region of the armpit
3. The jacket must be constructed to allow full freedom of movement while maintaining protective coverage.

**2. Material Specifications** ~~2. a) At the spool end the three-pin male plug, which must comply with the conditions of manufacture and assembly laid down in Article m.55, will be attached to the wires in the following manner: the pin at 15 mm from the centre pin to the conductive jacket; the central pin to the wire in the weapon; the pin at 20 mm from the centre pin to the foil earth circuit or the conductive piste. b) The wire which joins the rear connection of the bodywire to the conductive jacket by a crocodile clip must be separate for at least 40 cm. This wire must be soldered to the crocodile clip and this soldering must not be covered by any insulation or any material whatsoever. However, any method of fixing which presents the same guarantees as soldering may be used, provided it has been accepted by the SEMI Committee. c) The crocodile clip must be robust and ensure perfect contact with the conductive jacket. Its width at the point of contact must be at least 10 mm; the inside of the clip must leave a free space at least 8 mm long by 3 mm high. It must be clipped onto the back of the conductive jacket on the sword-arm side.~~

1. The jacket must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material must comply with the safety standards and test methods described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Rules.

**3. Fastening Requirements** ~~3. a) At the end nearest the foil, inside the guard, any method of attachment is allowed but the method adopted must always conform to the specification laid down in Article m.5. b) In addition, the pins of the plug must in no circumstances be able to touch the metal part of the guard.~~

1. The jacket must be capable of being completely closed.
2. The collar must be capable of being completely fastened.

**4. Seam Construction**

1. Seams must be constructed to maintain the 800 Newton resistance standard.

**5. Additional Requirements — Épée**

1. At épée, the fencer is required to wear a regulation jacket which covers the whole of the surface of the trunk.
2. The jacket must provide complete coverage of the valid target area as defined in the competition rules.
3. No conductive surface is required for épée jackets.

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**Proposal 72**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.30**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.30 “Mask” (old m.30, épée-specific) describes the épée mask prohibition on conductive material and the bib shape requirement. The restructured Article m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements” replaces the épée-specific mask article with a comprehensive conductive jacket requirements article for all weapons. The épée mask provisions from old m.30 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements.” The restructured m.30 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.28 foil conductive jacket provisions and m.34 sabre conductive jacket provisions, and consolidates coverage, material, construction, electrical resistance, and weapon-specific requirements into six dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the épée-specific mask article with a comprehensive conductive jacket requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves épée mask provisions to m.28 (Mask Requirements)

3. Consolidates foil conductive jacket requirements from old m.28 and sabre conductive jacket requirements from old m.34 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material requirements, construction requirements, and electrical resistance sub-sections
5. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific conductive jacket requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

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~~**Rules Specific to Epee**~~

~~**Mask**~~

**m.30. Conductive Jacket Requirements** ~~1. The mask must not be covered, in whole or in part, by conductive material or material which can cause the point to glance off (cf. m.25).~~

**1. General Coverage**

1. The conductive surface of the conductive over-jacket, which is worn over the protective jacket, must cover the valid target of the fencer entirely and without omission when in the on-guard position.
2. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must cover a sufficient area to ensure that it covers the valid target in all positions of the fencer.
3. The overlap must always be on the sword-arm side.
4. The interior of conductive jackets must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the conductive lamé material.

**2. Conductive Jacket — Material Requirements** ~~2. The mask must be so shaped that the bib reaches below the prominences of the collar bones (clavicles).~~

1. The lamé material used must be of conductive thread in both warp and weft.
2. Holes or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit is forbidden.

**3. Conductive Jacket — Construction Requirements**

1. The jacket when laid flat is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium).
2. The band of non-conductive material passing between the legs and is fixed to the lower edge of the back of the jacket must be at least 3 cm wide.
3. The conductive collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm.

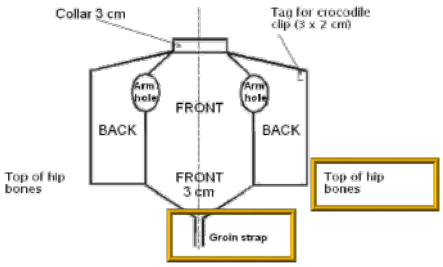



**Figure 23: Conduct jacket illustration**

## 4. Conductive Jacket — Electrical Resistance

1. The electrical resistance measured between any two points of the conductive material must not be greater than 5 ohms +1 ohm.
2. Electrical resistance must be verified in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in the following way:
   a. The resistance will be measured by using a 500 g conductive metal which has a hemispherical end with a radius of 4 mm.
   b. This weight, placed on this end and moved about on the lamé, must maintain continuous contact with a maximum resistance of 5 ohms +1 ohm.

## 5. Additional Requirements — Foil

1. The foil conductive jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm by 3 cm, near the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.
2. Including as mentioned in t. 77

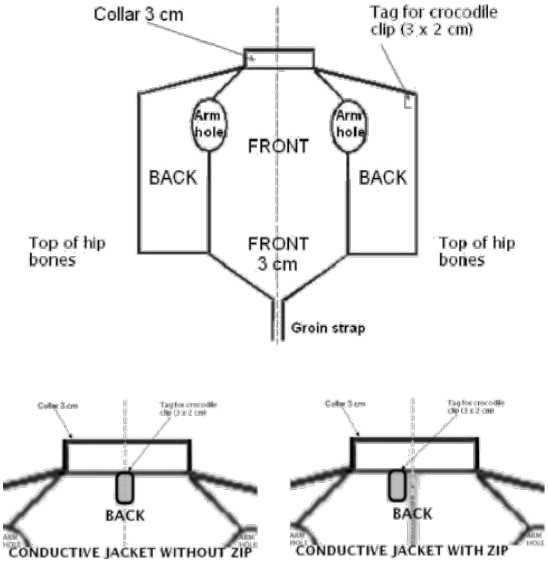



**Figure 24: Foil conductive jacket details**

## 6. Additional Requirements — Sabre

1. The conductive jacket or conductive sleeveless over-jacket must cover the valid target entirely.
2. The valid target includes the area above a horizontal line across the top of the folds formed by the fencer's thighs and trunk when in the on-guard position.
3. Sleeves must reach to the middle of the hand when the sword arm is extended and the hand is in the position of the sixte parry.
4. The conductive material must cover the entire arm.
5. Whatever the means of fastening used, the conductive material must overlap sufficiently to cover the target in all fencing positions.
6. The overlap must be on the sword-arm side and must not extend below the horizontal line defining the valid target.

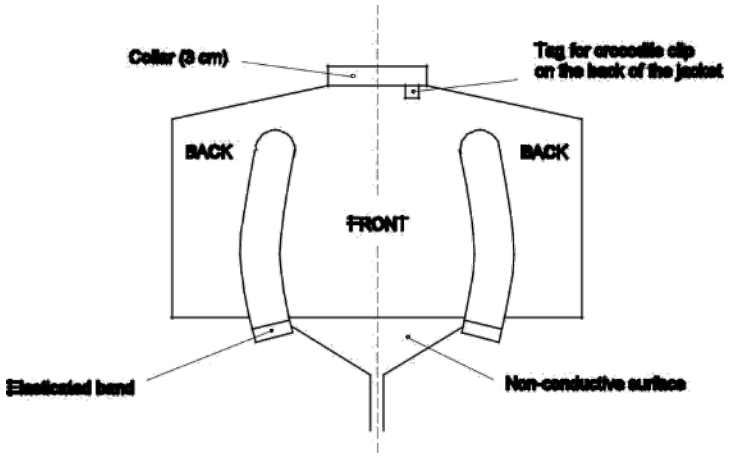



**Figure 25: Sabre conductive jacket**

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**Proposal 73**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.31**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.31 “Bodywire” (old m.31, épée-specific) describes the épée bodywire wire insulation, plug construction, pin assignments, guard-end attachment, and insulating sheath requirements. The restructured Article m.31 “Breeches Requirements” replaces the épée-specific bodywire article with a dedicated breeches requirements article. The épée bodywire provisions from old m.31 are now covered under m.38 “Épée Body Wire.” The restructured m.31 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 breeches and clothing provisions and consolidates breeches construction, material specifications, and length and fastening requirements into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the épée-specific bodywire article with a dedicated breeches requirements article
2. Moves épée bodywire provisions to m.38 (Épée Body Wire)
3. Consolidates breeches requirements from old m.25 clothing provisions into a single article
4. Adds explicit material specifications and length and fastening sub-sections

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**~~Bodywire~~ Part 4: Breeches**

**m.31. Breeches Requirements** ~~1.a) The conductive wires of the bodywire must be well insulated from each other, insensitive to humidity, and either joined or twisted together. b) The maximum electrical resistance allowed for each of these conductive wires from plug to plug is 1 ohm.~~

**1. Material Specifications** ~~2. The bodywire has a connecting plug which must be made of a transparent material at each end. In the absence of a security device being fitted to the weapon, a security device must be fitted to the plug of the bodywire.~~

1. The breeches must be made entirely of cloth able to resist a pressure of 800 Newtons.
2. The material must comply with the safety standards and test methods described in this Book and the Materials Homologation Rules.

**2. Length and Fastening** ~~3. At the spool end, a three-pin male plug is connected to the wire as follows: a. the pin 15 mm from the centre pin to whichever wire is most directly connected to the pointe d'arrêt; b. the centre pin to the other wire on the épée; c. the pin 20 mm from the centre pin to the épée's earth circuit and to the conductive piste.~~

1. The breeches must be fastened below the knees.
2. The fastening system must be secure and must not come undone during competition.
3. The breeches must overlap with socks to ensure complete leg coverage.

~~4. This plug must conform to the conditions of manufacture and mounting specified in Article m.55.~~

~~5. Inside the guard the choice of system is free but the system chosen must comply with the conditions of Article m.5.~~

~~6. In addition, the pins of the plug must not on any account permit contact with the metal of the guard.~~

~~7. The two wires coming from the tip must be protected by two insulating sheaths, one for each wire, from the point where they enter the guard right up to the two insulated connections on the plug socket. In no case may uninsulated wires extend beyond the plug connections (cf. m.5, m.9).~~

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**Proposal 74**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.32**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.32 “Mask” (old m.32, sabre-specific) describes the sabre mask conductivity, bib covering, trim, electrical contact, and resistance requirements. The restructured Article m.32 “Glove Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific mask article with a comprehensive glove requirements article for all weapons. The sabre mask provisions from old m.32 are now covered under m.28 “Mask Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.32 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 and m.33 glove provisions and consolidates coverage, construction, material, and weapon-specific requirements into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific mask article with a comprehensive glove requirements article for all weapons
2. Moves sabre mask provisions to m.28 (Mask Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates glove requirements from old m.25 and m.33 into a single article
4. Separates foil-specific and sabre-specific glove requirements into distinct additional requirements sub-sections

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~~**Rules Specific to Sabre**~~

~~**Mask**~~ **Part 5: Glove**

**m.32. Glove Requirements** ~~1. The metal mesh of the mask must not be insulated and must ensure electrical conductivity.~~

**1. General Coverage Requirements**

1. At all weapons, the gauntlet (cuff) of the glove must, in all circumstances, fully cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor’s sword arm.
2. The glove must prevent the opponent’s blade from entering the sleeve of the jacket.
3. The gauntlet (cuff) must maintain this coverage and protective function throughout all fencing actions.

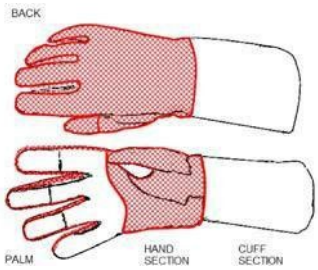



**Figure 26: Section of the glove**

**2. Construction Standards** ~~2. The bib and any trim must be entirely covered with conductive material with the same electrical characteristics as the conductive jacket.~~

1. Any hole in the hand of the glove is forbidden.
2. The closure of the glove must be from the middle of the wrist upwards towards the thumb.
3. The glove must be constructed so that seams, closures, and materials do not tear, split, or fail under normal fencing conditions.

**3. Material Requirements** ~~3. The trim may also be made of conductive material.~~

1. The glove must provide protection consistent with the clothing resistance standards specified in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook for the relevant weapon and area.
2. Under normal fencing conditions, the glove material and seams must not allow penetration or tearing that compromises protection of the hand or forearm

**4. Additional Requirements — Foil** ~~4. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a white coloured or clear covered wire with two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the mask with one crocodile clip and to the jacket with another crocodile clip. This wire must be between 30cm and 40cm long. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.~~

1. The glove may be slightly padded.
2. Padding, if present, must not alter the fit or compromise the security of the glove.

**5. Additional Requirements — Sabre** ~~5. The electrical resistance between the crocodile clip and any point on the mask must be less than 5 ohms. The crocodile clips, the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2(c), must be soldered to the ends of the wire. In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between the two crocodile clips) must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

1. Where the glove forms part of the valid target, it must provide electrical continuity so that hits on the hand register correctly in accordance with the scoring rules for sabre.
2. The material of the fencing glove must have a level of protection of 800 N on the areas shown in the applicable diagram (see Figure 27) ; the seams must have a minimum strength of 200 N, and the cuff must have a level of protection of 350 N.

3. The conductive material, which can be removable or fixed, must cover all of the gauntlet (cuff) of the glove down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the on-guard position and when the sword arm is straight.
4. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet (cuff) to a depth of at least 5 cm.
5. An elastic band, popper button, or any system which guarantees conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI Committee must be used.
6. When a conductive overlay is worn, the overlay must contain a device which fixes its position on the arm so that its position cannot be changed during the bout.
7. The conductive material must satisfy the specified control conditions (see m.30.2).

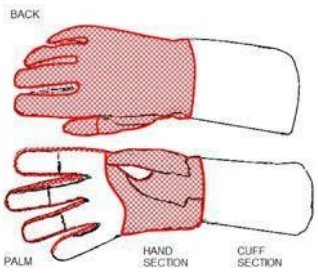



**Figure 27: Shaded areas requiring 800N for sabre gloves**

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**Proposal 75**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.33**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.33 “Glove” (old m.33, sabre-specific) describes the sabre glove protection levels, conductive material coverage, gauntlet depth, contact guarantee systems, and lamé control conditions. The restructured Article m.33 “Under-Plastron Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific glove article with a dedicated under-plastron requirements article. The sabre glove provisions from old m.33 are now covered under m.32 “Glove Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.33 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 under-plastron provisions and consolidates mandatory use, coverage design, material specifications, and construction requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific glove article with a dedicated under-plastron requirements article
2. Moves sabre glove provisions to m.32 (Glove Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates under-plastron requirements from old m.25 into a single article

4. Adds explicit coverage design, material specifications, and construction requirements sub-sections

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## ~~Glove~~ Part 6: Under-plastron

**m.33. Under-plastron Requirements** ~~1. The material of the fencing glove must have a level of protection of 800N on the areas shown in the diagram below, the seams a minimum strength of 200N and cuff a level of protection of 350N. The conductive material, which can be removable or fixed, must cover all of the gauntlet of the glove down to below the external cubital styloid (small prominent bone of the wrist), both when the fencer is in the 'on-guard' position and when the sword arm is straight. Inside the glove there must be fixed the FIE quality label, granted after the homologation procedure, with the year of manufacture and stating 800N.~~

### 1. Mandatory Use

1. An undergarment consisting of a protective under plastron is obligatory for all fencers at all weapons.
2. The under plastron must be worn beneath the jacket.

### 2. Coverage Design ~~2. The conductive material must be turned over into the inside of the gauntlet to a depth of at least 5 cm.~~

1. The under-plastron must cover the vital upper areas of the body.
2. The coverage must follow the design given in this Book and Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The under-plastron must provide protection for:
   a. The torso.
   b. The sword-arm shoulder and upper arm.
   c. The armpit region of the sword arm

### 3. Material Specifications ~~3. In order to guarantee a good contact with the sleeve of the conductive jacket, it is necessary to use an elastic band, a popper button or any system which will guarantee conductivity and which has been approved by the SEMI Committee. When a conductive overlay is worn, the overlay must contain a device which fixes the position of the overlay on the arm so that its position on the arm cannot be changed during the bout.~~

1. The under-plastron must be made of material resistant to 800 Newtons.
2. The material must provide protection consistent with the clothing resistance standards specified in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The under-plastron must maintain its specified protective properties throughout its service life under normal fencing conditions.

**4. Construction Requirements** ~~4. The conductive tissue (lamé) must satisfy the specified control conditions (cf m.28.5)~~

1. The under-plastron must be constructed without openings or gaps that could compromise protection.
2. Seams must be constructed to maintain the 800 Newton resistance standard.
3. The under-plastron must fit securely without shifting during fencing actions.

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**Proposal 76**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.34**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.34 “Conductive jacket” (old m.34, sabre-specific) describes the sabre conductive over-jacket coverage, arm coverage, collar, fastening, lamé testing, sleeve fixation, and leg strap requirements. The restructured Article m.34 “Chest Protector Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific conductive jacket article with a dedicated chest protector requirements article. The sabre conductive jacket provisions from old m.34 are now covered under m.30 “Conductive Jacket Requirements” (Additional Requirements — Sabre). The restructured m.34 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 chest protector provisions and consolidates mandatory and optional use, construction standards, material and design requirements, and foil-specific requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific conductive jacket article with a dedicated chest protector requirements article
2. Moves sabre conductive jacket provisions to m.30 (Conductive Jacket Requirements — Additional Requirements — Sabre)
3. Consolidates chest protector requirements from old m.25 into a single article
4. Adds explicit foil-specific additional requirements sub-section for surface treatment

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~~**Conductive jacket**~~ **Part 7: Chest Protector**

**m.34. Chest Protector Requirements** ~~1. The fencer must wear, over his jacket, a conductive over-jacket, the conductive surface of which must cover entirely and without omission the valid surface of the body above a horizontal line which, when the fencer is on guard, joins, round the fencer’s trunk, the tops of the two hip bones.~~

**1. Mandatory and Optional Use**

1. At all weapons, the use of a chest protector is:
   a. Compulsory for women.

b. Optional for men.

2. The chest protector must be worn in accordance with weapon-specific requirements set out in this Book and in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**2. General Construction Standards** ~~2. The conductive surface must cover the arms as far as the wrists. The jacket must have a collar which is at least 3 cm high. The jacket must have a conductive flap, minimum 2 cm x 3 cm in the middle of the back, just below the collar, to which the crocodile clip from the mask can be attached.~~

1. The chest protector must be made of material capable of distributing impact force.
2. The chest protector must fit securely and must not shift during fencing actions.
3. The chest protector must not impede freedom of movement necessary for fencing.

**3. Material and Design Requirements** ~~3. Whatever means of fastening is used, the conductive material must be ample enough to guarantee covering the valid target area in any position.~~

1. The rigid material must withstand the impact of normal weapon strikes without cracking or deforming in a way that reduces protection.
2. The design must provide the required protection without creating bulk that interferes with proper fencing movements or the fit of other protective clothing.
3. The chest protector must be worn in the correct position to protect the vital upper areas of the body.

**4. Additional Requirements — Foil** ~~4. The conductive material (lamé) must satisfy the conditions laid down for testing (cf. m.28).~~

1. At foil, the chest protector must be worn below the protective plastron / under-plastron.
2. A surface treatment for foil chest protectors is required to prevent the chest protector from causing non-valid hits to register on the scoring apparatus.
3. The surface treatment for foil chest protectors:
   a. Must consist of a soft material such as ethylene-vinyl acetate (E.V.A.) covering the entire surface of the chest protector on the side facing the opponent.
   b. The E.V.A. material must have a thickness of 4 mm and a density of 22 kg/m³.
   c. The material must be either attached to the chest protector or incorporated into it as a single unit.
   d. The material must have the SEMI technical mark at the center of the upper edge.

~~5. The sleeves of the conductive jacket must be fixed at the wrist by means of an elastic band. There must be a strap passing between the fencer's legs to keep the jacket in place (see Figure 15).~~

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**Proposal 77**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.35**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.35 “Bodywire and plugs” (old m.35, sabre-specific) states that the sabre fencer must use the foil bodywire configuration. The restructured Article m.35 “Sock Requirements” replaces the sabre-specific bodywire reference with a dedicated sock requirements article. The sabre bodywire provisions from old m.35 are now covered under m.39 “Sabre Body Wire.” The restructured m.35 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.25 sock and clothing provisions and consolidates length and coverage, fastening, uniform standards, and turn-over allowances into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the sabre-specific bodywire reference with a dedicated sock requirements article
2. Moves sabre bodywire provisions to m.39 (Sabre Body Wire)
3. Consolidates sock requirements from old m.25 clothing provisions into a single article
4. Adds explicit uniform standards and turn-over allowances sub-sections

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~~**Bodywire and plugs**~~ **Part 8: Socks**

**m.35. Sock Requirements** ~~1. The fencer must use the bodywire specified for foil, plugged into the guard plug socket by means of any system which conforms with the conditions for manufacture and assembly laid down in Articles m.5, m.29 and m.55.~~

**1. Length and Coverage Requirements**

1. With breeches, the fencer must wear socks which cover the legs right up to the breeches.
2. There must be no gap between the top of the socks and the bottom of the breeches.
3. The socks must provide complete coverage of the lower leg.

**2. Fastening Requirements**

1. Socks must be held up in such a way that they cannot fall during competition.
2. The fastening system (elastic, garters, or other means) must be secure and reliable.
3. Socks must maintain their position during all fencing actions.

**3. Uniform Standards**

1. Both socks worn by the fencer must match the same design and color.
2. Socks must conform to the national uniform standards set out in Article m.26.5 and in this Book.

**4. Turn-Over Allowances**

1. The fencer is permitted to wear socks with a 10 cm turn-over showing the colors of their national team.
2. If a turn-over is worn, it must be consistent on both legs (see m.27.5-m.27.6).

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**Proposal 78**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.36**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.36 “Checking of Material Competence” (old m.36) describes the SEMI Committee’s supervision of electrical material checking at World Championships and Olympic Games, committee appointment, and right of seizure. The restructured Article m.36 “Body Wire Requirements — General” replaces the material competence checking article with a comprehensive general body wire requirements article applicable to all weapons. The material competence checking provisions from old m.36 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.36 draws its content from the common bodywire provisions across old m.29, m.31, and m.35 and consolidates general construction, electrical resistance standards, plug and socket requirements, and testing compliance into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the material competence checking article with a comprehensive general body wire requirements article
2. Moves material competence checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates common bodywire requirements from old m.29, m.31, and m.35 into a single article
4. Adds explicit electrical resistance standards, plug and socket requirements, and testing compliance sub-sections

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~~**Chapter 3. Checking of Material Competence**~~ **Part 9: Body Wire and Electrical Connections**

**m.36. Body Wire Requirements — General** ~~1. The checking of the electrical material used by the organisers for the World Championships (Open, Junior and Cadet) and the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games, as well as the checking of the fencers’ equipment, must be supervised by the SEMI Committee.~~

**1. General Construction**

1. The conductive wires of the body wire must be insulated electrically from each other.
2. Wires must be twisted or joined together and must not be affected by humidity.

3. Any external sheath or covering of the body wire must be made of white-colored or clear material.
4. The body wire must be constructed to withstand repeated flexing and use.
5. The body wire must maintain electrical integrity throughout its length during all fencing actions.

**2. Electrical Resistance Standards** ~~2. To carry out this supervision, three members of the above-mentioned Committee must be appointed and put in charge of this work. However, when the organising country possesses somebody competent, recognised as such by the SEMI, two members of the above Committee will be appointed.~~

1. The electrical resistance of each conductive wire (plug to plug) must not exceed 1 ohm.
2. Body wires that exceed the resistance limit must not be used in competition.
3. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Plug and Socket Requirements** ~~3. The delegates of the SEMI Committee of the FIE have the right at any time to seize a weapon, a bodywire, a conductive jacket or any item of equipment or clothing for examination.~~

1. The body wire must have a connecting plug at each end (see weapon-side socket requirements in m.8, m.17 and m.25, and Chapter 4).
2. Plugs must be made of transparent material to allow visual inspection.
3. If no securing device is fitted on the weapon-side socket assembly, a securing device must be fitted on the corresponding plug of the body wire.
4. The securing device must prevent the body wire from becoming accidentally unplugged during the bout while still allowing deliberate disconnection when not fencing.

**4. Testing and Compliance**

1. The body wire must be tested in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. Any body wire that does not meet the resistance requirements must not be used in competition.

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**Proposal 79**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.37**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.37 “Checking of Fencers’ Equipment” (old m.37) describes fencer responsibility for equipment, label of guarantee requirements, checking procedures, and committee appointments for equipment checking. The restructured Article m.37 “Foil Body Wire” replaces the

fencers' equipment checking article with a dedicated foil body wire requirements article. The equipment checking provisions from old m.37 are now covered under Chapter 5 "Weapons Control." The restructured m.37 draws its content from the old M Book's m.29 foil bodywire provisions and consolidates body wire configuration, earth wire to conductive jacket connection, and mask-to-jacket connection wire into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the fencers' equipment checking article with a dedicated foil body wire requirements article
2. Moves equipment checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates foil bodywire requirements from old m.29 into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit mask-to-jacket connection wire sub-section

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~~**Checking of Fencers' Equipment**~~

**m.37. Foil Body Wire** ~~1. In all official FIE competitions the fencers are responsible for their equipment (including weapons and clothes) at the moment they present themselves on the piste.~~

**1. Body Wire Configuration**

1. The foil body wire must have three conductors.
2. At the spool end, the three-pin male plug will be attached to the wires in the following manner:
   a. The pin at 15 mm from the center pin: to the conductive jacket.
   b. The central pin: to the wire in the weapon.
   c. The pin at 20 mm from the center pin: to earth.
3. At the weapon end, the two-pin plug is attached:
   a. One pin: to the weapon wire.
   b. One pin: to earth (guard/blade).

**2. Earth Wire to Conductive Jacket Connection** ~~2. In particular blades, masks and clothing must all carry the label of guarantee specified in the safety standards annexed to these Rules.~~

1. The earth wire with a crocodile clip must connect the body wire to the conductive jacket.
2. The crocodile clip must be soldered to the wire.
3. The electrical resistance in this connection must not exceed 1 ohm.
4. The crocodile clip design and size must conform to specified conditions in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

**3. Mask-to-Jacket Connection Wire** ~~3. The forms of checking laid down by these Rules are only intended to help organisers who must apply the Rules and fencers who must always~~

~~respect these Rules. These checks can, therefore, in no way absolve any fencers who break the Rules from responsibility.~~

1. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the bib of the mask must be ensured by means of a wire with two crocodile clips:
   a. One crocodile clip attaches to the conductive flap on the back of the jacket.
   b. The other crocodile clip attaches to the conductive bib of the mask.
2. This wire must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long.
3. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.
4. The electrical resistance between the two crocodile clips must not exceed 1 ohm.
5. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

~~**Body responsible for checks**~~

~~4. The Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint the member(s) of the SEMI Committee to be responsible for the checking of weapons, clothing and equipment of the fencers at the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games and for the World Championships.~~

~~5. For other official FIE competitions the Organising Committee will appoint one or more persons to be responsible for this checking.~~

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**Proposal 80**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.38**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.38 “Presentation of equipment to the Weapon Checking Centre” (old m.38) describes fencer obligations for equipment presentation, submission procedures, checking timelines, delegation responsibilities, defective weapon handling, mask safety enforcement, equipment return, and conductive jacket marking. The restructured Article m.38 “Épée Body Wire” replaces the equipment presentation article with a dedicated épée body wire requirements article. The equipment presentation provisions from old m.38 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.38 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.31 épée bodywire provisions and consolidates épée body wire configuration and épée-specific connection requirements into two dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the equipment presentation article with a dedicated épée body wire requirements article
2. Moves equipment presentation provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates épée bodywire requirements from old m.31 into a single dedicated article
4. Specifies that épée does not require conductive clothing connection

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~~**Presentation of equipment to the Weapon Checking Centre**~~

**m.38. Épée Body Wire** ~~1. Fencers are obliged to present themselves at the Weapon Checking Centre, at the time advised in the timetable of each official competition of the FIE, with the equipment they intend to use during the event in question. The number of articles handed to the Checking Centre is limited to four weapons, three bodywires, two conductive jackets, two masks and three mask-to-jacket leads per fencer. To make the checking of weapons easier and allow the complete observation of the tip and its base, foil fencers must present their foils at the weapon control with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm.~~

**1. Épée Body Wire Configuration**

1. The épée body wire must have three conductors.
2. At the spool end, the three-pin male plug is connected in the standard configuration:

a. One pin: to the first weapon wire (connected to tip).

b. One pin: to the second weapon wire (connected to tip).

c. One pin: to earth (the guard and blade).

3. At the weapon end, the three-pin plug connects to the socket assembly inside the guard:

a. Two pins connect to the two wires from the tip assembly

b. One pin connects to earth (the guard and blade)

**2. No Conductive Clothing Connection — Épée** ~~2. Each competitor must submit his weapons in a fencing bag at the Weapon Checking Centre reception. An inventory of the equipment is made by an organising official and a label is put on the bag, indicating the name of the country of the competitor. The bags are stored in the order in which they arrive, and are checked in the same order.~~

1. The épée body wire does not require connection to any conductive clothing.
2. The body wire connects only to the weapon and to the spool.

~~3. Provision should be made for weapons and clothing to be submitted on the morning of the day before the competition. Having been checked, the material will be returned to the delegations at the end of the day. Weapons, equipment and clothing presented to the Checking Centre after 5 p.m. on the day before each event may be refused.~~

~~4. Each head of delegation must indicate where he can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to his fencers is being checked.~~

~~5. If a weapon is found to be defective at the first check a form is attached indicating the fault: e.g. the length of the blade, the insulation, the spring of the point, cutting edges, etc. This form is completed at the second check. However, when a weapon is rejected, it must go through the entire cycle again.~~

~~6. A mask which does not comply with the safety requirements laid down in this article will be rendered visibly unusable by the weapon checking personnel or the Referee in the presence of~~

~~the person who presented the mask to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned.~~

~~7. The fencers or the team captain can only insist on the return of the equipment which has been checked one hour before the start of the event.~~

~~8. A conductive jacket which is considered to be unusable will be so marked with a very visible coloured paint by a member of the FIE SEMI Commission.~~

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**Proposal 81**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.39**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.39 (old m.39) states that if material or equipment appears to have been assembled to control hit registration or cause apparatus malfunction, the SEMI Committee representative may require a penalty. The restructured Article m.39 “Sabre Body Wire” replaces the penalty provision with a dedicated sabre body wire requirements article. The penalty provision from old m.39 is now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons Control.” The restructured m.39 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.35 sabre bodywire provisions and the common foil bodywire structure, and consolidates sabre body wire configuration, guard socket requirements, earth wire to conductive jacket connection, and mask-to-jacket connection wire into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the material assembly penalty provision with a dedicated sabre body wire requirements article
2. Moves the penalty provision to Chapter 5 (Weapons Control)
3. Consolidates sabre bodywire requirements from old m.35 and common foil structure into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit guard socket requirements and mask-to-jacket connection wire sub-sections

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~~**Checking of Fencers’ Equipment**~~

**m.39. Sabre Body Wire** ~~1. If material or equipment presented to the Checking Centre appears to have been assembled in such a way that the fencer can control at will the registering of hits or the malfunctioning of the judging apparatus, the representative of the SEMI Committee may, after the examination of the irregular items, require a penalty against the person who submitted them.~~

**1. Sabre Body Wire Configuration**

1. The sabre body wire must have three conductors and is similar in construction to the foil body wire.
2. At the weapon end, the plug connects to the socket assembly inside the guard.

3. When attached to the spool and weapon, the body wire must maintain electrical contact with the guard of the weapon.

**2. Guard Socket Requirements**

1. Inside the guard there must be a socket into which the body wire is plugged.
2. The socket assembly must ensure reliable electrical contact during all fencing actions.
3. The socket assembly must be secured to prevent disconnection during the bout.

**3. Earth Wire to Conductive Jacket Connection**

1. The body wire must maintain electrical continuity between the scoring apparatus and the conductive surfaces (weapon and jacket).
2. The two sockets of the body wire plug must be in direct contact with the body of the guard, making a closed electrical circuit through:
   a. The body wire.
   b. The spool.
   c. The cable connecting the spool to the scoring apparatus.

**4. Mask-to-Jacket Connection Wire**

1. The electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a wire with two crocodile clips.
   a. One crocodile clip attaches to the conductive flap on the back of the jacket.
   b. The other crocodile clip attaches to the mask.
2. This wire must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long.
3. A coiled mask wire is not allowed.
4. The electrical resistance between the two crocodile clips must not exceed 1 ohm.
5. Resistance must be measured in accordance with official Weapons Control procedures in this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook.

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**Proposal 82**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.40**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.40 (old m.40) is a check-marks header article with no substantive content. The restructured Article m.40 “General Provisions - Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure” replaces this empty header with a comprehensive scope, definitions, and reference documents article for the entire scoring apparatus chapter. The restructured m.40 establishes the organizational

framework for Chapter 4, defining key terms and cross-referencing the Materials Homologation Handbook.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces an empty header article with a substantive general provisions article for Chapter 4
2. Establishes clear scope covering central scoring apparatus, connection systems, pistes, power supplies, and display systems
3. Provides formal definitions for key technical terms used throughout the chapter
4. Adds reference document and technical specifications amendment provisions

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## Chapter 4: Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure

## Part 1: Scope, Definitions and Reference Documents

### m.40. General Provisions - Scoring Apparatus and Infrastructure (all weapons)

**1. Scope**

1. This Chapter covers the requirements for:
a. Central scoring apparatus (m.42–m.45).
b. Connection systems, including spools, cables, and suspended systems (m.48–m.49).
c. Conductive pistes (m.50).
d. Source of electrical current (m.51).
e. Extension lamps and display systems (m.52–m.53).
2. These provisions apply to all official FIE competitions and are recommended for all fencing venues using electrical scoring equipment.

**2. Definitions**

For the purposes of this Chapter, the following terms apply:

1. Central scoring apparatus: The electrical device that receives signals from the fencers' weapons via connection systems and indicates valid and non-valid hits through visual and audible signals.
2. Extension lamps: External light signals placed outside the central apparatus to increase visibility of hit registration for referees, fencers, and spectators.
3. Display board / Central display apparatus: Electronic scoreboard displaying fencers' names, scores, time, period, and penalty cards, required for finals and higher-level competition rounds.
4. Prototype: A complete sample apparatus (including spools, connections, and all ancillary equipment) submitted for examination and approval by the SEMI Committee prior to use in official FIE competitions.
5. Homologation: The formal approval process for equipment and materials as specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook, separate from event-specific apparatus approval.

6. Connection system: The complete electrical path from the central apparatus to the fencer, including spools or suspended cables, connecting cables, plugs, sockets, and safety devices.
7. Conductive piste: The metallic or conductive surface covering the fencing area, used to neutralize hits made on the floor in foil and sabre.

### 3. Reference Documents

1. The functional and construction requirements of this Chapter are complemented by the Materials Homologation Handbook, which contains detailed numerical tolerances, test methods, and conformity assessment procedures for scoring apparatus and related equipment.
2. Where this Chapter specifies performance requirements, the Materials Homologation Handbook specifies how conformance is verified

### 4. Technical Specifications Amendments

The SEMI Committee can propose variances in the timing specifications for any apparatus in the light of experience, laboratory tests, and consultation with other Commissions.

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**Proposal 83**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.41**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.41 (old m.41) describes check mark requirements for checked equipment and repair procedures. The restructured Article m.41 “Authorization of Apparatus” replaces the check mark requirements article with a comprehensive apparatus authorization article. The check mark provisions from old m.41 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.41 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.44 (authorised designs), m.46–m.49 (approval scope, identification, disclaimer, costs) provisions and consolidates authorized apparatus designs, scope of approval, identification, disclaimer, and cost provisions into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the check mark requirements article with a comprehensive apparatus authorization article
2. Moves check mark provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates authorization, approval scope, identification, and cost provisions from old m.44–m.49 into a single article
4. Adds explicit disclaimer of guarantee and costs of examination sub-sections

**m.41. Authorization of Apparatus (all weapons)** ~~1. The items of equipment which have been thus checked will be distinctively marked. A fencer must not, on pain of penalties (cf. t.120), use any equipment which does not bear this check mark.~~

**1. Authorized Apparatus Designs**

1. Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorized.
2. Apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorized by the SEMI are permitted.
3. Apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only, are excluded.

**2. Scope of Approval** ~~2. Any repairs to equipment rejected during the checking can be carried out in the repair workshop. Repaired equipment will, however, only be tested again after the first set of checks of the other fencers' equipment has been completed.~~

1. Apparatus approval is design-specific; the manufacturer is responsible for ensuring that all apparatus supplied for competition conform to the approved design and meet all technical requirements at the time of use.
2. The SEMI Committee is willing to examine prototypes submitted by constructors even if not intended for an imminent official competition.
3. Approval is given only for one established design which conforms to the drawing submitted, not as a general approval for all products made by any manufacturer.
4. Manufacturers may state in publicity only that the design has been used at a specific official competition, but they must guarantee the apparatus conforms to the approved design.

**3. Identification and Liability**

1. Every approved apparatus must carry, on its base, a metallic plate identifying its specific characteristics (manufacturer, year of manufacture, model, technical information).

**4. Disclaimer of Guarantee**

Approval by the SEMI Committee and its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction or use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators.

**5. Costs of Examination**

All expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus.

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**Proposal 84**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.42**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.42 (old m.42) describes the personnel and equipment required for checking weapons at competitions, including gauge specifications, testing devices, and workshop team organization. The restructured Article m.42 “Core Functional and Safety Requirements of Apparatus” replaces the checking personnel article with a comprehensive functional and safety requirements article for all scoring apparatus. The personnel and equipment checking provisions from old m.42 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.42 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.50–m.51 (requirements for electrical equipment) provisions and consolidates hit registration, visual signals, power supply, clock, remote control, and audible signal requirements into fifteen dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the checking personnel and equipment article with a comprehensive apparatus functional requirements article
2. Moves personnel and equipment checking provisions to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates apparatus functional requirements from old m.50–m.51 into a single article
4. Adds explicit clock resolution, VRS time output, referee remote control, and audible signal failsafe sub-sections

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~~**Personnel and equipment required for checking**~~

**m.42. Core Functional and Safety Requirements of Apparatus (all weapons)** ~~1. In order to allow those carrying out the checking to fulfil their task, the organisers are required to make available the equipment and the personnel necessary to carry out the work.~~

**1. Registration and Non-registration of Hits**

1. A hit made on the conductive piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus.
2. Such hits may not prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent.

**2. Protection Against Unauthorized Interruption** ~~2. The Organising Committee must provide the FIE technical delegates responsible for checking the weapons and equipment with at least the following apparatus: a. Two gauges allowing the lengths of blades and the depths and diameters of the guards at all weapons to be measured quickly. b. Devices for measuring the flexibility of blades and the resistance of the mesh of masks. c. An electrical checking device to check quickly the electrical resistance and that the bodywire and the weapon are correctly assembled. d. Weights of 750 g and 500 g to test the springs of the points in épée and foil, in the workshop and at each piste. e. A device allowing the lighting stroke and residual travel of épée points to be accurately measured, in the workshop and at each piste. f. Labels to~~

~~indicate that a weapon has been checked and that it satisfies the regulation, or has been rejected. g. In the world championships and Olympic Games the control of blades by Foucault current is mandatory. h. The organisers must provide a special stamp to be affixed to each conductive jacket to enable the referees to verify that its resistance in ohms has been checked by the technical delegates of the FIE. i. A special ink or paint must be provided to mark the guards, blades and points of weapons which have been checked. Nevertheless, those responsible may use other methods to mark the weapon and conductive jackets.~~

The apparatus must not have any device whereby anyone other than the person detailed to supervise it can interrupt its working during a bout.

### 3. Visual Signals

1. The apparatus should have a pilot light to show that it is switched on. This light must be dim and colorless.
2. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be visible to the Referee, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made.
3. Signal lamps may be fitted with translucent covers. These covers must be removable to allow the use of uncovered lights when venue conditions require it, such as strong sunlight or outdoor competition.
4. It must be possible to attach extension lamps to the exterior of the apparatus to increase the visibility of the signals.

### 4. Signal Persistence

1. Signal lamps, once activated, must remain lit until the apparatus is reset.
2. Signals must not extinguish or flicker due to subsequent hits or vibrations.

### 5. Reset Controls

The resetting switches must be placed either on top of or on the front part of the apparatus.

### 6. Power Supply

1. Apparatus must always be equipped with a socket to allow it to be powered either by 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.

1. Apparatus must be based on a 12 volt supply with a tolerance of ±5%.
2. If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment.
3. The wiring must be designed so that apparatus cannot become connected by mistake directly to the mains supply.

### 7. Integrated Clock and Score Display

1. Each central scoring apparatus used in official competitions must include an integrated match clock and score display (see m.43-m.45).
2. The clock and score display form part of the functional configuration of the apparatus for the purposes of approval and use.
3. The clock and score display must be clearly visible at all times to:
    a. The Referee.
    b. Both fencers.
    c. Coaches and team officials in the field of play area.
    d. Spectators in the competition hall.
4. Visibility must be ensured under normal indoor lighting conditions and under enhanced lighting used for finals and television production.
5. Any external scoreboard or display board used in addition to the central scoring apparatus must reproduce, without modification, the match time and scores generated by the approved apparatus.

## 8. Clock Resolution and Measurement Capability

1. The match clock must be capable of measuring and internally tracking time in units of one hundredth of a second for the entire duration of each bout and team relay
2. The internal time base stability and precision tolerances are specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. Any user visible display that presents the official bout time (on the central apparatus or on external display boards) must reproduce the time generated by this clock without applying independent rounding or filtering operations

## 9. Time Output to Video Refereeing System (VRS)

1. The central scoring apparatus must provide an electronic time output to the official Video Refereeing System.
2. The time output to the VRS must carry the current match time expressed in hundredths of a second, synchronized with the internal match clock described in this Book (m.42).
3. The time output interface, format, and update rate must comply with the specifications defined in the applicable Materials Homologation Handbook and any technical handbooks for scoring apparatus and video systems.
4. When the match clock is started, stopped, or reset, the corresponding state change must be reflected in the time output to the VRS without undue delay or loss of events, within the tolerances specified in the technical handbooks

## 10. Last Ten Seconds Display Behavior

During the last ten (10) seconds of each period in an individual bout and of each bout in a team match, the official match clock must change its display resolution to provide enhanced time indication.

1. The clock must show time to a tenth of second when the scoring apparatus is running

2. The clock must show time to a hundredth of second when the scoring apparatus is stopped
3. The timer should be provided with a remote start/stop device.

## 11. Clock Extensions for Finals

1. For finals of official FIE competitions, the clock must be equipped with:
    a. A system connecting it to external extension clocks displaying large luminous numbers
    b. A system for connection of the audible signal
2. These connection systems must be electrically isolated from the internal circuits of the apparatus in accordance with the specifications in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
3. The clock and remote control must operate the match clock defined in m.42.

## 12. Referee Remote Control- General Requirements

1. The match clock of the central scoring apparatus must be controlled by a remote control device intended for the Referee.
2. The remote control must provide a single, clearly identifiable control for the combined start–stop function of the match clock; no additional timing or reset functions may be assigned to the remote.
3. The remote control must be equipped with a visible LED indicator that confirms the operational status of the device and each transmitted command.
4. The design of the remote control must minimize the risk of accidental activation, taking into account typical Referee gestures and handling during a bout, as further specified in the applicable technical handbook

## 13. Referee Remote Control- Radio Communication

1. The communication between the Referee's remote control and the match clock must operate via encrypted radio frequencies.
2. The radio protocol, frequency bands, encryption requirements, and coexistence rules with other wireless systems in the venue must comply with the specifications defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook and with all applicable regulatory requirements.
3. The radio link must be sufficiently robust that loss of connection, interference, or low battery conditions cannot cause unintended clock start or stop; any such fault conditions must default to a safe state defined in the technical handbooks

## 14. Audible Signals

1. Visual signals must be accompanied simultaneously by audible signals.
2. The audible signals will consist either of a short ring, or of a continuous note.
3. Duration must be automatically limited to one to two seconds.
4. The sound signal must be identical for both sides of the apparatus.

5. The apparatus may include a device which allows the sound signal to be stopped before the apparatus is reset.

**15. Audible Signal Failsafe**

When the cable connecting the audible-signal apparatus to the clock is disconnected:

1. The audible-signal apparatus must emit a sound of 80–100 decibels measured at the piste center line.
2. Duration must be 2–3 seconds.
3. The central judging apparatus must not be blocked.
4. The clock must not be stopped. (t.32)

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**Proposal 85**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.43**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.43 (old m.43) describes workshop team procedures for checking weapons and equipment, specifying team composition and roles for dimension checks, electrical tests, and marking. The restructured Article m.43 “Foil Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the workshop procedures article with a dedicated foil-specific central judging apparatus article. The workshop procedures from old m.43 are now covered under Chapter 5 “Weapons and Equipment Control.” The restructured m.43 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B foil apparatus specifications and consolidates foil apparatus function, hit registration, visual signals, sensitivity, resistance tolerance, lockout operation, and testing requirements into seven dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the workshop team procedures with a dedicated foil central judging apparatus article
2. Moves workshop checking procedures to Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
3. Consolidates foil-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit sensitivity, resistance tolerance, lockout operation, and testing sub-sections

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**m.43. Foil Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. To carry out the checks properly and rapidly, ‘workshop’ teams of three people should be used. (At least three such workshops should be provided.)~~

## 1. Foil Apparatus Main Function

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for foil must comply with the following:

1. At foil, the apparatus registers when a break occurs in the circuit of the foil.
2. The electrical current which is circulating permanently in the foil circuit is broken when a hit is made.

## 2. Foil - Registration of Hits ~~2. The first person checks that all the weapons are normal with respect to their dimensions by passing them through a gauge.~~

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus.
2. A hit made on a part of the foil may register if an uninsulated part of the weapon of the fencer is in contact with his conductive jacket.
3. After registering a hit, whether on target or off target, the apparatus must no longer be able to register a subsequent hit on the same side of the apparatus.
4. No priority must be indicated between a hit registered against one competitor and a hit registered against his opponent.

## 3. Foil - Visual Signals ~~3. The second does all electrical tests.~~

1. Hits are registered by light signals:

a. A red signal on one side when a hit is registered on target;

b. A green signal on the other when a hit is registered on target;

c. White signals on either side will indicate hits off the target.

2. At foil, when using the apparatus it should be noted that:

a. If a non-valid hit has been scored, the apparatus will not register a possible valid hit scored on the same side of the apparatus.

b. The apparatus does not indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.

3. Yellow lamps serve only to indicate insulation faults (see m.43.5)

## 4. Foil - Sensitivity and Signal Registration ~~4. The third affixes the checking marks and replaces the weapons in the fencing bag.~~

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus. The duration of the break of contact which must always ensure that a signal is registered is 14 ms ± 1 ms
2. Depending on the increase in the resistance, the apparatus may register:

a. A valid hit only.

b. A valid hit and a non-valid hit simultaneously.

c. A non-valid hit only.

d. The resistance must always be less than 500 ohms for (a) and (b).

3. The contact time is the same for valid and non-valid hits.
4. The registering of a valid hit must be guaranteed when there is a break of contact of 14 ms ± 1 ms, when the exterior resistance is between 0 and 500 ohms.
5. A break of contact of 14 ms ± 1 ms must always ensure that a signal is registered, when the exterior resistance is between 0 and 200 ohms.

## 5. Foil - Resistance Tolerance and Fault Conditions

1. The apparatus must be capable of tolerating an increase in the resistance in the closed circuit of the foils of up to 200 ohms, without causing a non-valid signal to register.
2. Even if the resistance of the foil earth circuit is increased up to 100 ohms, none of the following irregular phenomena must occur:

a. Hits are registered on the guard or on the piste;

b. Hits must not be registered merely by contact of the blade or the pointe arrêt (without depressing it) on the conductive jacket of either competitor.

3. When the blades are in contact, irrespective of the resistance in ohms between them, the apparatus must be capable of registering normally the hits exchanged, valid and non-valid.
4. Even if a fault in the insulation causes a short between a fencer's conductive jacket and weapon, the apparatus must still register both valid and non-valid hits.
5. The apparatus must be equipped with two yellow lamps:

a. The yellow lamp must light up and remain lit when the resistance between a fencer's conductive jacket and weapon is less than 450 ohms

b. The yellow lamp must not light up when this resistance exceeds 475 ohms.

6. If one or both of the yellow lamps remain lit, the Referee must stop the bout and call the technical experts to eliminate the fault.
7. The yellow lamps need not indicate any contact between the fencer's conductive jacket and the conductive piste.

## 6. Foil Lockout Operation

1. After the first hit is signaled, the apparatus must ignore all subsequent signals once the lockout period of 300 ms (± 25 ms) has elapsed.
2. This lockout period is a fixed technical interval unrelated to "fencing time" under the conventions of foil fencing.

## 7. Foil Testing and Authorization

1. Test programs for foil apparatus are defined in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
2. The Congress of the FIE has authorized this Committee to modify or add to the above requirements whenever technical improvements allow the construction of apparatus which can ensure the better operation of the electrical foil judging apparatus.

**Proposal 86**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.44**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.44 (old m.44) provides an introduction listing all electrical judging equipment provided by competition organisers, including the central apparatus, spools, conductive piste, power supply, and clock. The restructured Article m.44 "Épée Central Judging Apparatus" replaces the general equipment introduction with a dedicated épée-specific central judging apparatus article. The general equipment listing provisions from old m.44 are now covered under m.40 (General Provisions). The restructured m.44 draws its content from the old M Book's Annex B épée apparatus specifications and consolidates épée apparatus function, visual signals, resistance and timing, and lockout operation into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the general equipment introduction with a dedicated épée central judging apparatus article
2. Moves general equipment listing to m.40 (General Provisions)
3. Consolidates épée-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit visual signals, resistance and timing, and lockout operation sub-sections

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~~**PART 2. FITTINGS AND MATERIAL PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISERS**~~

~~**Introduction**~~

**m.44. Épée Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. All electrical judging equipment includes, in addition to the equipment provided by the fencers themselves, the material provided by the organisers of a competition, which is:~~

**1. Épée Apparatus Main Function**

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for épée must comply with the following:

1. At épée, the apparatus registers when contact is established between the wires forming the circuit in the épée, thus completing the circuit.

**2. Épée - Visual Signals** ~~2. The central judging apparatus, with extension lamps (cf. m.51, m.59, Annexe B);~~

1. Visual signals include at least two signal lamps on each side of the apparatus, so designed that if one lamp does not function it does not prevent the other from lighting up nor cause an excessive current through the latter.
2. The signal lamps must give a red signal on one side of the apparatus and a green signal on the other.
3. The apparatus may include lights which indicate short circuits to earth. These must be orange in color.

**3. Épée - Apparatus Resistance and Timing** ~~3. The spools, with cables and connections, or cables suspended overhead (cf. m.55);~~

1. The apparatus must register only the first hit which is made when the active circuit is completed (see m.20 for tip assembly travel requirements).
2. If the interval between two hits is less than 40 ms, the apparatus must register a double hit, with both signal lamps lighting simultaneously.
3. If the interval between two hits is greater than 50 ms, the apparatus must register only one hit.
4. The apparatus must not register hits made on earthed material (guard or conductive piste), even when the resistance of the earth circuit is up to 100 ohms.

**4. Épée - Lockout Operation** ~~4. The conductive piste which neutralises hits made on the ground (cf. m.57);~~

1. When the external resistance is normal, that is 10 ohms, the apparatus must register hits when these are made with a duration of contact of 2–10 ms.
2. With an exceptional external resistance of 100 ohms the apparatus must still register a hit, but without any specific duration of contact.
3. The apparatus must not register signals of less than 2 ms duration.

~~5. The source of electrical current should be 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA (valve-regulated lead-acid) batteries (cf. m.58).~~

~~6. For finals of official competitions of the FIE, a clock which counts down the time and which can be linked to the apparatus which controls the audible signal and the electrical registering of hits (cf. m.51, Annexe B).~~

~~7. The wireless apparatus is optional at the Veteran World Championships.~~

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**Proposal 87**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.45**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.45 (old m.45) describes the authorised designs for electrical scoring apparatus, specifying that only wired apparatus with light signals are permitted, with wireless encoded-wave systems also allowed by the SEMI. The restructured Article m.45 “Sabre Central Judging Apparatus” replaces the authorised designs article with a dedicated sabre-specific central judging apparatus article. The authorised designs provisions from old m.45 are now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.45 draws its content from the old M Book’s Annex B sabre apparatus specifications and consolidates sabre apparatus function, visual signals, resistance and timing, lockout operation, and timing adjustment into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the authorised designs article with a dedicated sabre central judging apparatus article
2. Moves authorised designs provisions to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates sabre-specific apparatus requirements from old Annex B into a single dedicated article
4. Adds explicit visual signals, resistance and timing, lockout operation, and timing adjustment sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 1. SCORING APPARATUS Authorised designs**~~

**m.45. Sabre Central Judging Apparatus** ~~1. Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting the fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorised, except for apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorised by the SEMI. This excludes other apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only.~~

**1. Sabre Apparatus Main Function**

In addition to the core functional requirements of m.42, the central judging apparatus for sabre must comply with the following:

1. The apparatus works by contact between any uninsulated part of the sabre and the conductive surface of the opposing fencer’s jacket, glove and mask.

**2. Sabre - Visual Signals**

1. For hits made on these valid conductive surfaces, the apparatus shows a red light on one side and a green light on the other.
2. If the guard or blade of a fencer’s sabre is in contact with the conductive surface of his own equipment (signaled by a yellow light), a valid hit made by that fencer must still register.

3. The apparatus must be equipped with two yellow lamps, one on each side, which will indicate a contact between the guard or blade of a fencer's sabre and the conductive surface of his own equipment.
4. The apparatus must be equipped with two white lamps, identical to those on a foil apparatus which, if permanently illuminated, accompanied by a sound signal, indicate any abnormal electrical change in circuits B and C of the fencer at fault.
5. Hits made on non-conductive surfaces must not be signaled.

## 3. Sabre - Apparatus Resistance, Faults, and Timing

1. When the two blades touch, all the other rules should be strictly applied.
2. The apparatus should still function when the blades are in contact, or if there is contact between the blades and the guards, or between the two guards.
3. The apparatus must not signal a hit made by the blade whipping over to hit the opponent while in contact with his blade or guard.
4. After a hit has been registered, a subsequent hit made by the other fencer will only be registered if it occurs within a maximum of 170 ms ± 10 ms.
5. The apparatus should allow an increase in the exterior resistance of the connections up to 100 ohms without any drawbacks.
6. Should a fault in the insulation, down to 0 ohms, cause a leakage of current between a fencer's valid conductive surface and his weapon, the apparatus should still be capable of registering all hits exchanged.
7. The insulation fault will be signaled by the illumination of the yellow lamp on the side of the fencer whose equipment is at fault when the resistance is between 0 and 450 ohms.
8. The registering of a valid hit on the guard or blade of the fencer at fault will be allowed provided that the electrical resistance between the guard or the blade and the valid surface is less than 250 ohms.
9. Should there be a hit made by the whipping over of the blade which has not been signaled, whatever method has been used to prevent the signaling, after 15 ms ± 5 ms from the contact of the blade with the valid target (the time for the registering of the whip) and unless there has been another hit, the apparatus should allow the normal registering of any subsequent hits.
10. A break in the control circuit (defined as more than 250 ohms) for 3 ms ± 2 ms will be signaled by the illumination of the white lamp on the side of the fencer at fault.

## 4. Sabre - Lockout Operation

1. The duration of contact during which a signal should be ensured should be 0.1–1 ms.
2. An apparatus will be rejected if a hit can be registered with a duration of contact of less than 0.1 ms (time subject to modification)
3. If the contact between the blade and the opponent's target takes place 'through the blade', the apparatus:

a. Will register the hit between 0 and 4 ms (+ 1 ms);

b. Will prevent the hit being registered between 4 and 15 ms (+ 5 ms), on condition that the contact between the two blades is not interrupted more than a maximum of 10 times in the interval.

**5. Sabre - Timing Adjustment**

Timing for the apparatus may be varied in the light of experience and of laboratory tests carried out by the SEMI Committee.

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**Proposal 88**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.46**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.46 (old m.46) describes the approval procedure for judging apparatus designs, requiring SEMI Committee approval for World Championship and Olympic Games apparatus, submission of complete apparatus for examination at least six months before competition, and detailed construction drawings. The restructured Article m.46 “Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions” replaces the approval procedure article with a comprehensive apparatus selection article covering all levels of FIE competitions. The approval procedures from old m.46 are consolidated with selection requirements into three dedicated sub-sections covering general selection conditions, World Championship apparatus, and Olympic Games apparatus.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the approval procedure article with a comprehensive apparatus selection article
2. Consolidates apparatus selection requirements for all FIE competition levels
3. Separates World Championship and Olympic Games apparatus requirements into distinct sub-sections
4. Adds explicit provisions for manufacturer selection and equipment homologation

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~~**Approval of designs of apparatus**~~

**m.46. Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions** ~~1. Judging apparatus for use in a World Championship or the Olympic Games must have been approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

**1. Apparatus Selection Conditions**

1. For official FIE competitions, the organizing committee must provide a minimum number of electrical judging apparatuses equal to the number of pistes plus at least two spares.
2. The Organizing Committee must choose a manufacturer who will provide good quality equipment for smooth technical running of competitions.

3. For official FIE competitions, all scoring equipment must be in working order and homologated by the SEMI Committee.
4. As soon as a member federation is selected to organize an official FIE competition, it should contact the President of the SEMI Committee immediately to obtain names of manufacturers whose electrical apparatus is accepted by the Committee for use at their level of competition.

**2. Apparatus for World Championships** ~~2. In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by the said Committee, at a place and on a date to be agreed with the Committee, at least six months before the date of the competition.~~

1. Judging apparatus for World Championships must be approved for use at the World Championship level.
2. List of approved apparatus for World Championship level competitions can be requested from the SEMI.

**3. Apparatus for Olympic Games** ~~3. The apparatus must be accompanied by a detailed drawing showing its construction.~~

1. Judging apparatus for the Olympic Games must be approved by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.
2. In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by a designated team of the SEMI Committee, at a place and on a date to be agreed with by the Committee, at least six months before the start date of the competition.
3. The apparatus must be accompanied by technical documentation, including but not limited to detailed drawings, CAD files, and be submitted digitally to the SEMI Commission and the FIE Office.

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**Proposal 89**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.47**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.47 (old m.47) states that approval is given for the use of apparatus in one specific official competition only, and that the SEMI Committee is willing to examine prototypes submitted by constructors even outside of imminent official competitions. The restructured Article m.47 “Apparatus Checking Procedures” replaces the competition-specific approval article with a comprehensive apparatus checking procedures article. The competition-specific approval provision from old m.47 is now covered under m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions). The restructured m.47 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.52–m.53 (checking of apparatuses) provisions and consolidates prototype approval procedures and pre-competition testing into two dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the competition-specific approval article with a comprehensive apparatus checking procedures article
2. Moves competition-specific approval provisions to m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions)
3. Consolidates apparatus checking procedures from old m.52–m.53 into a single article
4. Adds explicit prototype approval procedures and pre-competition testing sub-sections

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**m.47. Apparatus Checking Procedures** ~~1. Approval is given for the use of the apparatus in one specific official competition only. The SEMI Committee is willing, as far as it is able, and without charge, to examine prototypes of apparatus submitted by constructors even if the use of such apparatus is not envisaged for an imminent official competition.~~

**1. Prototypes Approval and Procedures**

1. In the case of using a prototype for a World Championships or a FIE competition:
   a. Having chosen the manufacturer, the Organizing Committee must immediately advise the President of the SEMI Committee.
   b. The President contacts the firm to obtain, as soon as possible, a prototype of the desired model.
   c. Control of fencing apparatuses must be done before competition using a checking device able to verify that apparatuses fulfill all requirements related to reaction times and electrical resistances.
2. The report on checking is presented to the manufacturer by the President of the Committee within one month of the apparatus being received.
3. Two possibilities exist:
   a. The proposed apparatus is accepted, in which case other apparatuses can be manufactured like the prototype.
   b. The apparatus does not conform to requirements, in which case it must be modified and re-submitted for new examination.
4. When all apparatuses are ready and before they are sent out, the President of the SEMI Committee must be notified for documentation of checking before they leave the factory.
5. Each apparatus comes with a test report giving specifications concerning:
   a. Registering time in milliseconds
   b. Resistance in ohms of external circuits before registering a non-valid hit
6. The person in charge of verification ticks off every apparatus and makes a note of its number.

**2. Testing and Checking of Apparatus**

1. A specific program of tests for an apparatus under different conditions can be supplied on request by the SEMI Committee of the FIE.
2. A specific program of tests also includes the checking of the functioning of the apparatus including but not limited to timing, lockout, lamp functionality.
3. Before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organizing Committee must check:
   a. Proper working of apparatuses to be used.
   b. That they conform to the type registered. This is independent of the registration of the type of apparatus.
4. The apparatuses must be made available to this delegate at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.

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**Proposal 90**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.48**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.48 (old m.48) specifies that approval is given for only one established design of apparatus conforming to the submitted drawing, not as a general approval for all products by any manufacturer, and that every approved apparatus must carry a metallic identification plate. The restructured Article m.48 “Spools and Cables” replaces the established design and identification article with a dedicated connection systems article. The established design and identification plate provisions from old m.48 are now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.48 draws its content from the old M Book’s m.55 (spool and cable specifications) provisions and consolidates electrical resistance requirements, cable length and safety features, plug specifications, and alternative connection systems into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the established design and identification article with a dedicated spools and cables article
2. Moves established design approval and identification plate provisions to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates spool and cable specifications from old m.55 into a single article
4. Adds explicit resistance requirements, safety features, plug specifications, and alternative systems sub-sections

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## Part 2: Connection Systems

### m.48. Spools and Cables

**1. Electrical Resistance Requirements** ~~1.Approval is given for only one established design of apparatus which conforms to the drawing submitted, and is not given as a general approval for all the products made by any manufacturer. The latter may state in their publicity only the fact that the design of apparatus which they offer for sale has been used at a specific official competition (if this in fact is the case); but they themselves must guarantee that the apparatus conforms to the design for which approval was given.~~

1. The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket, must be 3 ohms + 1 ohm.
2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being rotated at full speed
3. Contact rings of the spool must have double brushes.
4. The wire connected to the earth circuit of the weapon must be connected to the frame of the spool.

**2. Cable Length and Safety Features** ~~2. Every approved apparatus must carry, on its base, a metallic plate identifying its specific characteristics: manufacturer, year of manufacture, model, technical information, etc.~~

1. The spools must allow 20 m of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.
2. The socket which terminates the spool cable and receives the plug of the body wire at the fencer's back must include a safety device which fulfills the following requirements:
   a. It is impossible to use it unless the plug is correctly put in.
   b. It is impossible for it to become separated during the bout.
   c. It is possible for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.

**3. Connecting Cables and Plug Specifications**

1. The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.
2. The plugs used to connect the body wire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spools and to the apparatus must have:
   a. Three pins of 4 mm diameter arranged in a straight line.
   b. Outer pins are spaced 15 mm and 20 mm respectively, from the center pin.
3. The body wire and the connecting cables have plugs; the spool wires and the central electrical apparatus have sockets.

**4. Alternative Connection Systems**

The use of suspended cables instead of spools is permitted, provided that the conditions already mentioned are satisfied.

**Proposal 91**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.49**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.49 (old m.49) states that the approval of an apparatus by the SEMI Committee as well as its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction, or against its use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators. The restructured Article m.49 “Installation Requirements” replaces the approval disclaimer with a dedicated installation requirements article. The disclaimer provision from old m.49 is now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.49 draws its content from the old M Book’s installation and spool placement provisions and consolidates cable length, spool placement, connecting cable construction, and grounding requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the approval disclaimer with a dedicated installation requirements article
2. Moves the approval disclaimer provision to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates installation and spool placement requirements into a single article
4. Adds explicit cable length, spool placement, connecting cable construction, and grounding sub-sections

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**m.49. Installation Requirements** ~~The approval of an apparatus by the SEMI Committee as well as its acceptance implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction, or against its use with a source of electrical current other than accumulators (cf. m.58).~~

**1. Cable Length**

The organizers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.

**2. Spool Placement**

The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.

**3. Connecting Cable Construction**

1. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three-core type.
2. They must be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.

**4. Grounding the Pistes**

Conductive pistes should be earthed at the center of the piste.

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**Proposal 92**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.50**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.50 (old m.50) states that all expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus. The restructured Article m.50 “Conductive Pistes” replaces the expenses article with a comprehensive conductive pistes article. The expenses provision from old m.50 is now covered under m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus). The restructured m.50 draws its content from the old M Book’s conductive pistes chapter and consolidates material and resistance, coverage, platform mounting, length and extensions, base construction, piste lines, and safety/testing requirements into seven dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the expenses article with a comprehensive conductive pistes article
2. Moves the expenses provision to m.41 (Authorization of Apparatus)
3. Consolidates conductive piste specifications from the old M Book’s Chapter 3 into a single article
4. Adds explicit material, coverage, platform, length, base construction, lines, and safety sub-sections

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## Part 3: Infrastructure Components

**m.50. Conductive Pistes** ~~1. All expenses incurred by the SEMI Committee for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons submitting the apparatus.~~

**1. Material and Resistance**

1. The conductive piste must be made from metal, metallic mesh, or a substance that is conductive.
2. The piste must maintain conductivity once positioned and ready for fencing.
3. The resistance of the piste, from one end to the other, must not exceed 5 ohms.

**2. Coverage Requirements**

The conductive piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions.

### 3. Platform-Mounted Pistes

1. When the piste is mounted on a platform, the conductive piste must cover the whole width of the platform.
2. The platform must not exceed 50 cm in height.
3. The platform must be wider than the fencing piste itself by at least 25 cm on each side.
4. Each end of the podium must be equipped with a gentle slope right down to ground level.

### 4. Length and Extensions

1. Because the amount of wire which spools can carry is limited, the conductive piste is designed for use on a piste 14 m long.
2. An extension of 1.5–2.0 m is added at each end of the piste to allow the fencer crossing the rear limits to retire on an even and unvarying surface.
3. The conductive piste must have a length of 17–18 m.

### 5. Platform Base Construction

1. The wooden bases are 12–15 cm above ground level.
2. The sides must not be sloping.
3. Must have a metal strip, screwed down if possible, which will keep down the edges of the conductive piste along the entire length of the base on both sides.
4. Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.

### 6. Piste Lines and Indicators

The paint used to draw lines on the conductive piste must not prevent its electrical conductivity.

### 7. Safety, Maintenance and Testing Requirements

1. There must be no roller or any sort of obstacle at the ends of the conductive pistes which could prevent fencers from retreating normally.
2. Pistes used in World Championships and Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organizers to ensure the adherence to electrical specifications described in this Book and in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

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**Proposal 93**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.51**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.51 (old m.51) covers the requirements for all electrical equipment, including hit registration on pistes, apparatus interruption, light signals, foil signal notes, lamp persistence, audible signals, resetting switches, power supply/UPS, clock timing, finals clock equipment with opto-couplers, cable disconnect sound specifications, and UPS backup time. The restructured Article m.51 “Power Supply and Backup” replaces the comprehensive electrical equipment requirements article with a focused power supply and backup article. The hit registration, light signals, audible signals, clock timing, and other apparatus requirements from old m.51 are now covered under m.42 (Core Functional Requirements), m.43–m.45 (weapon-specific apparatus articles), and m.52 (Extension Lamps). The restructured m.51 consolidates the power supply specifications into three dedicated provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the comprehensive electrical equipment requirements with a focused power supply article
2. Moves hit registration, light signals, audible signals, and clock provisions to m.42–m.45 and m.52
3. Consolidates power supply voltage, supply separation, and UPS backup requirements
4. Simplifies from eleven clauses to three focused provisions

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~~**Requirements for all electrical equipment (cf. Annexe B)**~~

### m.51. Power Supply and Backup

1. If the sources of current for each side of the apparatus are separate, it may be 2 × 12 volts or 2 × 6 volts. ~~1. A hit made on the conductive piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus, nor may it prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent. At foil a hit made on a part of the foil may register if an uninsulated part of the weapon of the fencer is in contact with his conductive jacket.~~

2. The separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended. ~~2. The apparatus must not have any device whereby anyone other than the person detailed to supervise it can interrupt its working during a bout.~~

3. For official FIE competitions, the apparatus must be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) with a minimum backup time of 5 minutes at full load. ~~3. Hits are registered by light signals. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be visible to the Referee, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made. It must be possible to attach extension lamps to the exterior of the apparatus, in order to increase the visibility of the signals.At foil, when using the apparatus it should be noted that: a. If a non-valid hit has been scored the apparatus will~~

not register a possible valid hit scored on the same side of the apparatus. b. The apparatus does not indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.

4. Once the signal lamps are alight, they must so remain until the apparatus is reset, without having any tendency to go out or flicker either when subsequent hits are made or if the apparatus is subjected to vibrations.
5. The visual signals must be accompanied by audible signals (cf. Annexe B).
6. The resetting switches must be placed either on top of or on the front part of the apparatus.
7. a) For official competitions of the FIE (cf. t.1) the source of power must always be secured through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) in order not to interrupt the load during the match if any interruption occurs in the normal electricity supply. The wiring of the apparatus to be powered in this way must be designed so that it is impossible for the apparatus to become connected by mistake directly to the mains supply. b) All fencing salles, clubs, etc., and the organisers of training sessions or competitions involving weapons using electrical equipment, may use the current supplied by the mains on condition that they adhere strictly to the technical standards laid down on the subject by their countries and international communities.
8. During the last 10 seconds of each period in an individual bout and of each bout in a team match, the clock must show: the time to a tenth of second when the scoring apparatus is running and to a hundredth of second when the scoring apparatus is stopped. The timer should be provided with a remote start/stop device (see Annex B for technical specifications).
9. For the finals of official competitions of the FIE, the clock must be equipped with a system which connects it to some external extension clocks displaying large luminous numbers, and with another system for the connection of the audible signal. These two connection systems must be separated from the circuits situated inside the central judging apparatus by means of opto-couplers (cf. t.32, m.44).
10. When the cable connecting the audible-signal apparatus to the clock is disconnected, the audible-signal apparatus must emit a sound of between 80 and 100 decibels (measured at the centre line of the piste) lasting between 2 and 3 seconds, but the central judging apparatus must not be blocked and the clock must not be stopped (cf. t.32, m.44, m.51/9).
11. For official FIE competitions (cf. t.1) the apparatus must obligatorily be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) with minimum 5 minutes backup time.

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**Proposal 94**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.52**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.52 (old m.52) covers the number and quality of judging apparatuses, specifying the minimum number of apparatuses for official FIE competitions, the process for contacting the SEMI Committee president, and the requirement to choose an approved manufacturer. The restructured Article m.52 “Extension Lamps” replaces the number and quality of apparatuses article with a comprehensive extension lamps article. The number and quality provisions from old m.52 are now covered under m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions). The restructured m.52 draws its content from the old M Book’s Chapter 5 (Extension Lamps) and consolidates usage requirements, lamp height and placement, colored and white lamp specifications, lamp arrangement, and electrical connection protection into six dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the number and quality of apparatuses article with a comprehensive extension lamps article
2. Moves number and quality provisions to m.46 (Apparatus Selection for FIE Competitions)
3. Consolidates extension lamp specifications from the old M Book’s Chapter 5 into a single article
4. Adds explicit usage, height/placement, colored lamps, white lamps, arrangement, and electrical protection sub-sections

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~~**Number and quality of judging apparatuses**~~

### m.52. Extension Lamps

**1. Usage Requirements** ~~1. For official FIE competitions, the organising committee must provide a minimum number of electrical judging apparatuses equal to the number of pistes plus at least two spares. All the apparatuses must be in perfect working order, and of a type approved for the World Championships.~~

1. Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for official competitions of the FIE.
2. Extension lamps must repeat scoring signals generated by the central apparatus (m.43–m.45).

**2. Lamp Height and Placement** ~~2. As soon as a member federation is selected to organise an official FIE competition, it would do well to contact the President of the SEMI Committee immediately in order to obtain the names of manufacturers whose electrical apparatus is accepted by the Committee.~~

1. The lamps should be placed at a minimum of 1.80 m above the piste.
2. When fencers fence on a 0.5 m high podium, the extension lamps must be 2.30 m above ground.

**3. Colored Lamp Specifications** ~~3. The Organising Committee usually prefers combined apparatus, which can be used for all three weapons. The Organising Committee must choose a~~

~~manufacturer who will provide good quality equipment for the smooth technical running of competitions; this equipment must be approved by the SEMI Committee.~~

1. The extension lamps signaling valid hits are colored: one red, the other green.
2. They must be at a minimum of 2600 lumens.

**4. White Lamp Specifications**

1. The white lights indicating non-valid hits must each provide a luminous flux of at least 1100 lumens.
2. The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm.

**5. Lamp Arrangement**

1. The white and colored extension lamps must be arranged on either side of the apparatus, either horizontally or vertically.
2. They must be visible from all directions.

**6. Electrical Connection Protection**

1. The exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply.
2. If exterior lamps are connected to the main electrical supply, the signals of the recording apparatus must be separated from the circuits of these lamps by phototransistors or by opto-couplers.

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**Proposal 95**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.53**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.53 (old m.53) covers the checking of apparatuses, including the prototype procedure with the SEMI Committee, the checking report timeline, the two possible outcomes (acceptance or resubmission), and the final checking and test report process before shipment. The restructured Article m.53 “External Display Systems” replaces the checking of apparatuses article with a comprehensive external display systems article. The checking of apparatuses provisions from old m.53 are now covered under m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures). The restructured m.53 draws its content from the old M Book’s display board and scoreboard provisions and consolidates display requirements for finals, last-64 onwards, and zonal/World Cup competitions into three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the checking of apparatuses article with a comprehensive external display systems article
2. Moves checking of apparatuses provisions to m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures)

3. Consolidates display board and scoreboard requirements from the old M Book into a single article
4. Adds explicit display requirements for finals, last-64 onwards, and zonal championships/World Cups

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~~**Checking of apparatuses**~~

### m.53. External Display Systems

**1. Display Board Requirements for Championship and Grand Prix Finals** ~~1. Having chosen the manufacturer with which it wants to deal, the Organising Committee of a World Championship immediately advises the President of the SEMI Committee of the FIE who in turn contacts this firm to obtain, as soon as possible, a prototype of the desired model. The control of the fencing apparatuses must be done before the competition using a checking device that is able to verify that the fencing apparatuses fulfil all requirements related to reaction times and electrical resistances.~~

For World Championship and Grand Prix finals and Masters, it is obligatory to make use of a display board providing instantaneous information on:

1. Fencers' names
2. Score
3. Time
4. Other matters necessary for good understanding of the bout

**2. Display Requirements — From Last 64 Onwards** ~~2. The report on the checking of the apparatus is always presented to the manufacturer by the President of the Committee within one month of the apparatus being received.~~

1. Starting from the last 64 at World Championships and Grand Prix, it is mandatory to use a central apparatus with:
   a. A large display or couple scoreboard.
   b. Instant information on fencers' names, country, score, time.
   c. The period of a bout or relay of a match.
   d. Any penalty cards.
2. Display information must reproduce match time and scores generated under m.42, and m.43–m.45.

**3. Display Requirements — Zonal Championships and World Cups** ~~3. There are then two possibilities: a. The proposed apparatus is accepted by the Committee, in which case the other apparatuses can be manufactured like the prototype. b. The apparatus does not conform to the requirements, in which case it must be modified and re-submitted to the Committee for a new examination.~~

This central apparatus is optional at Zonal Championships and World Cups.

~~4. When all the apparatuses are ready and before they are sent out, the President of the SEMI Committee must be notified, so that he can document the checking of the apparatuses before they leave the factory. Each apparatus comes with a test report giving the different specifications concerning the registering time in milliseconds and the resistance in ohms of the external circuits before registering a non-valid hit. The person in charge of verification ticks off every apparatus and makes a note of its number.~~

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**Proposal 96**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.54**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.54 (old m.54) states that before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organising Committee must check the proper working of the apparatuses and that they conform to the type registered, and that the apparatuses must be made available at least 48 hours before competition. The restructured Article m.54 “Competence and Authority” replaces the pre-competition checking article with a comprehensive weapons control competence and authority article. The pre-competition checking provisions from old m.54 are now covered under m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures). The restructured m.54 is the first article of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes responsibility, personnel appointment, authority, and competence requirements in four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the pre-competition checking article with a comprehensive competence and authority article
2. Moves pre-competition checking provisions to m.47 (Apparatus Checking Procedures)
3. Establishes Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) with clear authority and responsibility framework
4. Adds explicit personnel appointment, authority scope, and competence requirement sub-sections

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## Chapter 5: Weapons and Equipment Control

### Part 1: Competence and Scope

### m.54. Competence and Authority

**1. Responsibility for Weapons and Material Control** ~~1. Before every World Championship or Olympic Games, a delegate of the Organising Committee must check the proper working of the apparatuses to be used and that they conform to the type registered. This is independent of the registration of the type of apparatus mentioned above (cf. m.52).~~

1. Verification of compliance with the material requirements of this Book and the Materials Homologation Handbook is the responsibility of the SEMI Commission or, if the SEMI Commission is not present, then the responsibility is with the Directoire Technique / Supervisor.
2. Only members of the SEMI Commission or the Directoire Technique / Supervisor may require verification of detailed conformity to manufacturing specifications not readily verifiable by standard checking procedures.

**2. Appointment and Authority of SEMI Delegate** ~~2. The apparatuses must be made available to this delegate at least 48 hours before the beginning of the competition.~~

1. Authority of the SEMI delegate is established in the FIE Statues (see Functions of the Commissions 6.5)
2. Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint three member(s) of the SEMI Commission to be responsible for supervision of electrical equipment and weapons control of the World Championships and for the Olympic Games, including but not limited to:
    a. Checking of the fencers' weapon.
    b. Checking of the fencers' clothing and equipment.
    c. Electrical equipment provided by the organizers.
    d. Approving location of weapons control areas
    e. Checking conformity of Field of Play
3. Other official FIE competitions including but not limited to World Cups, Grand Prix, the FIE will appoint one or more SEMI Commission members to be responsible for supervision of electrical equipment and weapons control, including but not limited to items listed in m.54.2.2

**3. Authority of Weapons Control Personnel**

1. Weapons Control personnel have the authority to:
    a. Examine any weapon or equipment presented for competition use.
    b. Test weapons and equipment using approved checking apparatus.
    c. Approve conforming material by affixing checking marks.
    d. Reject non-conforming material.
    e. Refer irregular or suspicious material to the SEMI representative or Directoire Technique / Supervisor (see m.59–m.60 and m.58).
2. The decisions of Weapons Control personnel regarding material compliance are binding and can be appealed only to the SEMI representative present at the competition. If the SEMI representative is not present, then the Directoire Technique / Supervisor can be appealed to.

**4. Competence Requirements**

1. Weapons Control personnel must be trained in:
    a. The material requirements of this Book.

b. The proper use of checking apparatus and gauges.

c. The identification of non-conforming or irregular material.

d. The procedures for marking and rejecting equipment.

2. Training standards and certification procedures are defined by this Book, the Homologation Handbook, and the FIE.

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**Proposal 97**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.55**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.55 (old m.55) covers the spools, cables and their connections, specifying spool wire resistance (3 ohms), electrical contact continuity with double brushes, 20m cable unwinding, safety device requirements for spool sockets, connecting cable resistance (2.5 ohms), plug specifications (3 pins, 4mm diameter), and the permissibility of suspended cables. The restructured Article m.55 “Scope of Equipment Checking” replaces the spools and cables article with a comprehensive equipment checking scope article. The spools and cables provisions from old m.55 are now covered under m.48 (Spools and Cables). The restructured m.55 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes which equipment is subject to checking, when checking must take place, and fencer obligations in three dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the spools and cables article with a comprehensive equipment checking scope article
2. Moves spools and cables provisions to m.48 (Spools and Cables)
3. Establishes clear scope for equipment checking within Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control)
4. Adds explicit equipment subject to checking, timing, and fencer obligation sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 2. SPOOLS, CABLES AND THEIR CONNECTIONS**~~

**m.55. Scope of Equipment Checking**

**1. Equipment Subject to Checking** ~~1. The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket, must be 3 ohms.~~

1. All weapons and equipment used in competition must be checked for compliance with this Book.
2. Equipment subject to checking includes but not limited to:

a. Weapons and their corresponding parts;

b. Body wires;

c. Conductive jackets;

d. Masks;

e. Protective clothing and equipment (e.g. chest plates, etc.);

f. Gloves;

g. Field of Play equipment;

h. Other equipment (e.g. weights, shims, gabarit, etc.)

i. Any other equipment specified by the Directoire Technique (see Chapters 2 and 3).

**2. Timing of Equipment Checking Times** ~~2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being rotated at full speed. To ensure this the contact rings must have double brushes. The wire connected to the earth circuit of the weapon will be connected to the frame of the spool.~~

Equipment checking must take place:

a. Prior to the start of competition.

b. During the competition when the fencers are required to present themselves officially in the call room in the time period as posted on the colored pistes.

c. At any time during competition at the request of a referee, the Directoire Technique, or a SEMI representative.

d. Following any repair or modification of equipment during competition (see m.56–m.60).

**3. Fencer's Obligation to Present Equipment** ~~3. The spools must allow 20 m of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.~~

1. Each fencer is responsible for ensuring that all equipment they intend to use in competition is presented for checking in accordance with the procedures established by this Book.
2. Failure to present equipment for checking, or use of unchecked equipment, is subject to penalties as specified in the competition rules and in cases of irregular equipment under m.58.

~~4. The socket which terminates the spool cable, and is designed to receive the plug of the bodywire at the fencer's back, must include a safety device which fulfils the following requirements: that it is impossible to use it unless the plug is correctly put in; that it is impossible for it to become separated during the bout; that it is possible for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.~~

~~5. The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.~~

~~6. The plugs used to connect the bodywire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spools and to the apparatus must have three pins of 4 mm diameter arranged in a straight line. The outer pins must be spaced 15 and 20 mm respectively from the centre pin. The bodywire and the connecting cables have plugs, the spool wires and the central electrical apparatus have sockets to them.~~

~~7. The use of suspended cables instead of spools is permitted, provided that the conditions already mentioned are satisfied.~~

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**Proposal 98**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.56**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.56 (old m.56) covers installation requirements for spools and cables, specifying that organisers must ensure spools have 20m cables, spools must be placed close but outside pistes, cables should be three-core rubber-covered, and conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre. The restructured Article m.56 “Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control” replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article. The installation provisions from old m.56 are now covered under m.49 (Installation Requirements). The restructured m.56 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes submission requirements for equipment presentation in one dedicated sub-section.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article
2. Moves installation provisions to m.49 (Installation Requirements)
3. Establishes clear submission requirements for equipment presentation within Chapter 5
4. Adds explicit requirements for equipment assembly, functionality, delegation contacts, and timing

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## Part 2: Presentation and Checking Process

### m.56. Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control

**1. Submission Requirements** ~~1. The organisers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.~~

1. Fencers must present their equipment to the Weapons Control area during the timetable of each official competition.
2. Equipment must be presented in a manner that facilitates efficient checking (see m.55 for scope):
   a. Weapons must be fully assembled and ready for testing.
   b. Electrical components must be functional.
   c. Equipment must be clean and in condition for inspection.

3. Each head of delegation must indicate where they can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to their fencer is being checked.
4. Presentation to weapons control is allowed on the morning of the day before the competition. Presentation to weapons control after 17:00 on the day before each event may result in a refusal.

~~2. The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.~~

~~3. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three core type and be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.~~

~~4. Conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre of the piste.~~

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**Proposal 99**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.56**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.56 (old m.56) covers installation requirements for spools and cables, specifying that organisers must ensure spools have 20m cables, spools must be placed close but outside pistes, cables should be three-core rubber-covered, and conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre. The restructured Article m.56 “Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control” replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article. The installation provisions from old m.56 are now covered under m.49 (Installation Requirements). The restructured m.56 is part of Chapter 5 (Weapons and Equipment Control) and establishes submission requirements, submission limits, identification and labeling, collection procedures, and checking process workflow in five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the installation requirements article with a comprehensive equipment presentation article
2. Moves installation provisions to m.49 (Installation Requirements)
3. Establishes clear submission, limits, identification, collection, and workflow requirements within Chapter 5
4. Adds explicit requirements for equipment assembly, quantity limits, labeling, collection timing, and checking workflow

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**m.56. Presentation of Equipment to Weapons Control**

**1. Submission Requirements** ~~1. The organisers must ensure that the spools have cables of at least 20 m in length so that they do not get ripped out in the event of a flèche made at the end of the piste.~~

1. Fencers must present their equipment to the Weapons Control area during the timetable of each official competition.
2. Equipment must be presented in a manner that facilitates efficient checking (see m.55 for scope):
   a. Weapons must be fully assembled and ready for testing.
   b. Electrical components must be functional.
   c. Equipment must be clean and in condition for inspection.
3. Each head of delegation must indicate where they can be contacted should a serious fault be detected while the equipment belonging to their fencer is being checked.
4. Presentation to weapons control is allowed on the morning of the day before the competition. Presentation to weapons control after 17:00 on the day before each event may result in a refusal.

**2. Submission Limits and Provisions** ~~2. The spools must be placed close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.~~

1. Quantity limits are established to ensure efficient processing of equipment and equitable access to checking services.
2. Maximum number of items that may be presented for checking, include:
   a. Maximum number of four (4) weapons per fencer;
   b. Maximum number of three (3) body wires per fencer;
   c. Maximum number of two (2) conductive jackets per fencer;
   d. Maximum number of two (2) masks per fencer;
   e. Maximum number of three (3) mask-to-jacket leads per fencer.
3. For foil weapons only, weapons must be submitted with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm.

**3. Identification and Labeling** ~~3. The cables connecting the spools to the apparatus should be of the three core type and be covered with rubber to protect them from humidity and blows.~~

1. Fencers must provide identification for all equipment submitted for checking.
2. The Weapons Control area may require:
   a. Equipment to be placed in labeled bags or containers.
   b. Contact information for the fencer or their delegation.
   c. Indication of the fencer's weapon and competition events.
3. The Weapons Control area is responsible for maintaining organization and security of equipment during the checking process.

**4. Collection of Checked Equipment** ~~4. Conductive pistes should be earthed at the centre of the piste.~~

1. Fencers or their designated representatives must collect checked equipment in accordance with the timetable of each official competition of the FIE.
2. The Weapons Control area may establish specific times for collection to facilitate efficient operations.
3. Optimally, submitted equipment should be available for collection at the end of the same day of submission.
4. The fencer or the team captain can only insist on the return of the equipment which has been checked one hour before the start of the event.

**5. Checking Process Workflow**

1. Equipment is checked in the order in which they arrive or by an order as directed by the SEMI delegate.
2. Equipment checking typically follows this workflow:
   a. Submission: Fencer presents equipment at the Checking Area.
   b. Inspection: Weapons Control personnel examine and test equipment.
   c. Decision: Equipment is approved (marked) or rejected.
   d. Return — Approved: Approved equipment is processed in accordance with m.59 and equipment is returned to the fencer.
   e. Return — Non-conforming: Non-conforming is handled in accordance under m.60.

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**Proposal 100**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**
**Article m.57**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.57 (old m.57) covers conductive pistes, specifying material and resistance requirements, coverage, platform mounting, piste length and extensions, base construction, piste lines, repair equipment, safety obstacles, and pre-competition testing. The restructured Article m.57 “Weapon Length Measurement” replaces the conductive pistes article with a dedicated weapon length measurement article. The conductive piste provisions from old m.57 are now covered under m.50 (Conductive Pistes). The restructured m.57 consolidates all weapon length measurement procedures — total weapon length, blade length, applicable maximums, measuring devices, reading tolerances, ambiguous readings, and non-conforming consequences — into seven focused provisions.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the conductive pistes article with a dedicated weapon length measurement article

2. Moves conductive piste provisions to m.50 (Conductive Pistes)
3. Consolidates measurement procedures that were previously scattered across weapon-specific articles
4. Adds explicit measurement device requirements, reading tolerances, and ambiguity procedures

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~~CHAPTER 3. CONDUCTIVE PISTES~~

## m.57. Weapon Length Measurement

1. Total weapon length must be measured between Plane A and Plane E in accordance with m.4. ~~1. The conductive piste must be made from metal, metallic mesh or some substance that is conductive. The resistance of the piste, from one end to the other, must not exceed 5 ohms.~~

2. Blade length and any other dimensional distances must be measured between the relevant planes as defined in m.4. . ~~2. The conductive piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions, in order to neutralise floor hits.~~

3. The applicable maximum lengths for each weapon are defined in the weapon-specific articles of this Book, including but not limited to m.6 (foil), m.14–m.15 (épée), and m.23 (sabre). ~~3. a) When the piste is mounted on a platform the conductive piste must cover the whole width of the platform. b) The platform must not exceed 50 cm in height, and must be wider than the fencing piste itself by at least 25 cm on each side. Each end of the podium must be equipped with a gentle slope right down to ground level.~~

4. Weapons Control must use a rigid measuring device and must align the weapon along the axis of the blade for measurement. ~~4. Because the amount of wire which the spools can carry is limited, the conductive piste is designed for use on a piste 14 m long; an extension of 1.50–2 m is added at each end of the piste to allow the fencer crossing the rear limits of the piste to retire on an even and unvarying surface. The conductive piste must therefore have a length of 17–18 m.~~

5. Measurements are read to the nearest millimeter. Because of normal reading and alignment uncertainty with such devices, small apparent overruns up to 2 mm may occur without providing any significant advantage or affecting safety. ~~5. a) The wooden bases are 12–15 cm above ground level. Their sides must not be sloping. b) Must have a metal strip, screwed down if possible, which will keep down the edges of the conductive piste along the entire length of the base on both sides. c) Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.~~

6. In cases where the reading is ambiguous because of parallax, alignment, or blade curvature during measurement, Weapons Control must repeat the measurement. ~~6. The paint used to draw the lines on the conductive piste must not prevent its electrical conductibility, so that a hit made on it at a point where a line occurs is also neutralised.~~

7. Interpretation and consequences of non-conforming length measurements are in m.59–m.60. ~~7. The organisers must have equipment for the immediate repair of the piste available on the spot.~~

~~8. There must be no roller or any sort of obstacle at the ends of the conductive pistes which could prevent the fencers from retreating normally.~~

~~9. Pistes used in the World Championships and in the Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organisers using the apposite device.~~

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**Proposal 101**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.58**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.58 (old m.58) covers the source of electrical current, specifying 12 volt supply requirements, warning lights, battery/voltmeter equipment, and UPS backup time. The restructured Article m.58 “Irregular Equipment and Penalties” replaces the source of electrical current article with a comprehensive irregular equipment and penalties article. The power supply provisions from old m.58 are now covered under m.51 (Power Supply and Backup). The restructured m.58 draws its content from various enforcement-related provisions in the old M Book and consolidates detection, examination and evidence, penalties, and reporting into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the source of electrical current article with a comprehensive irregular equipment article
2. Moves power supply provisions to m.51 (Power Supply and Backup)
3. Consolidates irregular equipment procedures that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit detection, examination, penalties, and reporting sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 4. SOURCE OF ELECTRICAL CURRENT**~~

## m.58. Irregular Equipment and Penalties

**1. Detection of Irregular Equipment** ~~1. The apparatus must be based on a 12 volt supply (± 5%) or, if the sources of current for each side of the apparatus are separate, on 2 x 12 volts or 2 x 6 volts. (The separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended because it can simplify a number of problems met in the construction of apparatus for foil.)~~

1. If material or equipment presented to the Weapons Control area appears to have been assembled in such a way that the fencer can control at will the registering of hits or the malfunctioning of the judging apparatus, the equipment must be referred to the SEMI representative or Directoire Technique.
2. Irregular equipment includes, but is not limited to:
   a. Equipment with concealed switches, contacts, or circuits.
   b. Equipment with components designed to circumvent the rules.
   c. Equipment modified to allow manipulation of electrical circuits during fencing.
   d. Equipment that does not conform to approved designs or specifications.

**2. Examination and Evidence** ~~2. The apparatus may include warning lights to indicate that it is switched on. Such lights should be colourless.~~

1. The SEMI representative or Directoire Technique must examine irregular equipment to determine:
   a. The nature and extent of the irregularity.
   b. Whether the irregularity constitutes intentional rule violation.
   c. The identity of the person who submitted the equipment.
2. Irregular equipment may be retained as evidence and may be subject to detailed examination or testing.

**3. Penalties for Irregular Equipment** ~~.3. If the apparatus is constructed to operate with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or some other device enabling the power in the batteries to be checked at any moment. However, the apparatus must always be equipped with a socket, to allow it to be powered either by 12 V DC via AC/DC converter or through VRLA batteries.~~

1. After examination of irregular items, the SEMI representative may require a penalty against the person who submitted them.
2. Penalties are imposed in accordance with the disciplinary procedures set out in the competition rules and may trigger homologation review under m.68–m.73.
3. The severity of penalties may depend on:
   a. The nature and extent of the irregularity.
   b. Whether the irregularity appears intentional.
   c. Whether similar irregularities have been detected previously.

**4. Reporting and Documentation** ~~4. Generally, if the apparatus is powered by batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply), the minimum backup time for the external batteries or UPS is 5 minutes.~~

1. All instances of irregular equipment must be documented and reported to the FIE.
2. Documentation must include:
   a. Description of the irregularity.
   b. Photographs or physical evidence where appropriate.
   c. Identity of the person who submitted the equipment.
   d. Penalties imposed or recommended.
3. Irregular equipment may also be subjected to homologation review under m.68–m.73 where applicable.

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**Proposal 102**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.59**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.59 (old m.59) covers extension lamps, specifying that extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for official FIE competitions, lamp placement height, valid hit lamp color and luminosity requirements, non-valid hit lamp specifications, and lamp arrangement. The restructured Article m.59 “Marking of Approved Material” replaces the extension lamps article with a comprehensive marking of approved material article. The extension lamp provisions from old m.59 are now covered under m.52 (Extension Lamps). The restructured m.59 consolidates checking mark requirements, types, application, validity, and referee verification into five dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the extension lamps article with a comprehensive marking of approved material article
2. Moves extension lamp provisions to m.52 (Extension Lamps)
3. Consolidates checking mark provisions that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit requirements, types, application, validity, and referee verification sub-sections

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~~**CHAPTER 5. EXTENSION LAMPS**~~

**Part 3: Marking and Post-check Handling**

**m.59. Marking of Approved Material**

**1. Requirements for Checking Marks** ~~1. a) Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for the official competitions of the FIE. b) The lamps should be placed at a minimum of 1.80 m above the piste. (When the fencers fence on a 0.50 m high podium, the extension lamps must be 2.30 m above ground.) c) The extension lamps signalling valid hits are coloured, one red, the other green, and they must be of 2600 lumens minimum.~~

1. Equipment that is checked and approved for use in competition must be distinctively marked to indicate that it has passed inspection.
2. Only equipment bearing valid checking marks may be used in competition (see m.55).
3. Use of equipment that does not bear valid checking marks is subject to penalties as specified in the competition rules and may constitute a breach of m.2.

**2. Types of Checking Marks** ~~2. a) The white lights indicating non-valid hits need be of only 1100 lumens. b) The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm.~~

1. Checking marks may include: a. Adhesive labels affixed to weapons or equipment. b. Special ink or paint applied to weapons (guards, blades, points). c. Stamps affixed to conductive jackets. d. Electronic tags or other identification methods approved by the FIE.
2. Checking marks must be: a. Distinctive and difficult to counterfeit. b. Durable enough to remain intact throughout the competition. c. Visible to referees and control personnel.

**3. Application of Checking Marks** ~~3. The white and coloured extension lamps must be arranged on either side of the apparatus, either horizontally or vertically, and must be visible from all directions (cf. Annexe B, paragraph A.1.(a).2).~~

1. Checking marks are applied by Weapons Control personnel after equipment has been verified to conform to this Book.
2. The location and method of applying the checking marks is determined by the SEMI representative and must be consistent throughout the competition.

**4. Validity of Checking Marks**

1. Checking marks are valid only for the competition for which they were issued (see m.56 for presentation and m.60 for re-checking).
2. Checking marks from previous competitions are not valid and must be removed before new checking marks are applied.
3. Equipment that has been repaired, modified, or altered after checking must be re-checked and re-marked before it may be used.

**5. Verification by Referees**

Referees are responsible for verifying that all equipment used in bouts under their supervision bears valid checking marks.

**Proposal 103**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.60**

**Motivation:** The current Article m.60 (old m.60) covers the second part of extension lamps, specifying that exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply with phototransistor or opto-coupler separation, and the mandatory use of display boards for World Championship and Grand Prix finals providing information on fencers' names, scores, time, and other details. The restructured Article m.60 "Handling of Rejected or Repaired Equipment" replaces the extension lamps/display board article with a comprehensive rejected and repaired equipment handling article. The display board and exterior lamp provisions from old m.60 are now covered under m.52 (Extension Lamps) and m.53 (Scoreboards and Display Systems). The restructured m.60 consolidates rejection categories, communication of rejection reasons, repair procedures, and re-checking requirements into four dedicated sub-sections.

This reorganization:

1. Replaces the extension lamps/display board article with a comprehensive rejected equipment handling article
2. Moves display board and exterior lamp provisions to m.52 (Extension Lamps) and m.53 (Scoreboards and Display Systems)
3. Consolidates equipment rejection and repair procedures that were previously scattered across multiple articles
4. Adds explicit rejection categories, communication, repair, and re-checking sub-sections

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**m.60. Handling of Rejected or Repaired Equipment**

**1. Rejection of Non-Conforming Equipment** ~~1. The exterior lamps of high intensity may be connected to the main electrical supply, but in this case the signals of the recording apparatus have to be separated from the circuits of these lamps by phototransistors or by opto-couplers.~~

1. Non-conforming equipment identified at Weapons Control falls into two categories: a. Repairable equipment, which does not meet one or more requirements of this Book but can be brought into conformity by repair or adjustment. b. Unsafe equipment, which presents a clear safety risk (for example, masks with damaged mesh or holes in vital areas, broken blades, or torn protective clothing exposing vital areas) must not be returned to service.
2. Repairable equipment may be returned to the fencer for repair in accordance with m.60.3–m.60.7.
3. Unsafe equipment (as defined in m.2, m.27, and m.28) may be confiscated or rendered visibly unusable by Weapons Control or by the Referee in the presence of the person who

presented the equipment to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned, and must not be returned to service in the competition.

4. Rejected equipment that is unsafe must be distinctively marked to indicate that it may not be used in competition (see m.2).
5. Rejection marks for conductive jackets must be paint or ink of a distinctive color.
6. Rejection marks must be marked by a member of the SEMI Commission, if available, or by the weapons checking personnel.

**2. Communication of Rejection Reasons** ~~.2.For World Championship and Grand Prix finals and Masters, it is obligatory to make use of a display board of the type shown in the drawing in Annexe C, providing instantaneous information on the fencers' names, the score, the time and other matters necessary for a good understanding of the bout. Starting from the last 64 at World Championships and Grand Prix, it is mandatory to use a central apparatus with a large display or a couple scoreboard that provides instant information on the fencers' names, country, score, time, the period of a bout or the relay of a match and any penalty cards. This central apparatus is optional at Zonal Championships and World Cups.~~

When equipment is rejected, Weapons Control personnel must inform the fencer or their representative of (see m.2, m.56, and Chapter 2–3):

1. The specific reason(s) for rejection.
2. The requirements that must be met for approval.
3. The procedures for repair and re-checking.

**3. Repair of Rejected Equipment**

1. Rejected equipment may be repaired during the competition if repair facilities are available.
2. Repairs must bring equipment into full conformity with this Book.

**4. Re-Checking of Repaired Equipment**

1. Repaired equipment must be re-submitted to the Checking Area for checking if intended for use in the competition (see m.56).
2. Re-checking of repaired equipment will be carried out only after the initial round of checking of all fencers' equipment has been completed.
3. Repaired equipment that passes re-checking must be marked with valid checking marks.

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**Proposal 104**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.61**

**Motivation:** Article m.61 “Organizers’ Obligations for Checking Resources” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book addressed organizer obligations only briefly and scattered across multiple chapters (old m.42, m.54, m.56). The new article consolidates and significantly expands these requirements into a single comprehensive article covering general obligations, required checking apparatus (gauges, flexibility testing, mask resistance, electrical testing, spring pressure weights, tip travel gauges, checking marks, and additional apparatus for major competitions), conductive jacket checking and stamping, marking materials, facilities and workspace, and gauge approval, calibration and maintenance.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for organizers’ checking resource obligations
2. Consolidates scattered provisions from old m.42, m.54, and m.56 into one location
3. Adds detailed apparatus lists including gauges, testing devices, weights, and marking materials
4. Introduces explicit facility, workspace, calibration, and maintenance requirements

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## Part 4: Equipment Checking Resources and Infrastructure

## m.61. Organizers’ Obligations for Checking Resources

### 1. General Obligation

1. The Organizing Committee of the competition must provide the equipment, personnel, and facilities necessary to carry out weapons and equipment checking in accordance with this Book.
2. The scope and scale of checking resources must be appropriate to the size and level of the competition (see m.54–m.56).

### 2. Required Checking Apparatus

The Organizing Committee must provide the FIE technical delegates responsible for checking with at least the following apparatus:

#### 1. Gauges for Dimensions

Two or more gauges of:

a. Blade lengths (foil, épée, sabre).

b. Guard diameters and depths (all weapons).

c. Handle lengths.

d. Other dimensional requirements specified in Chapters 1–3.

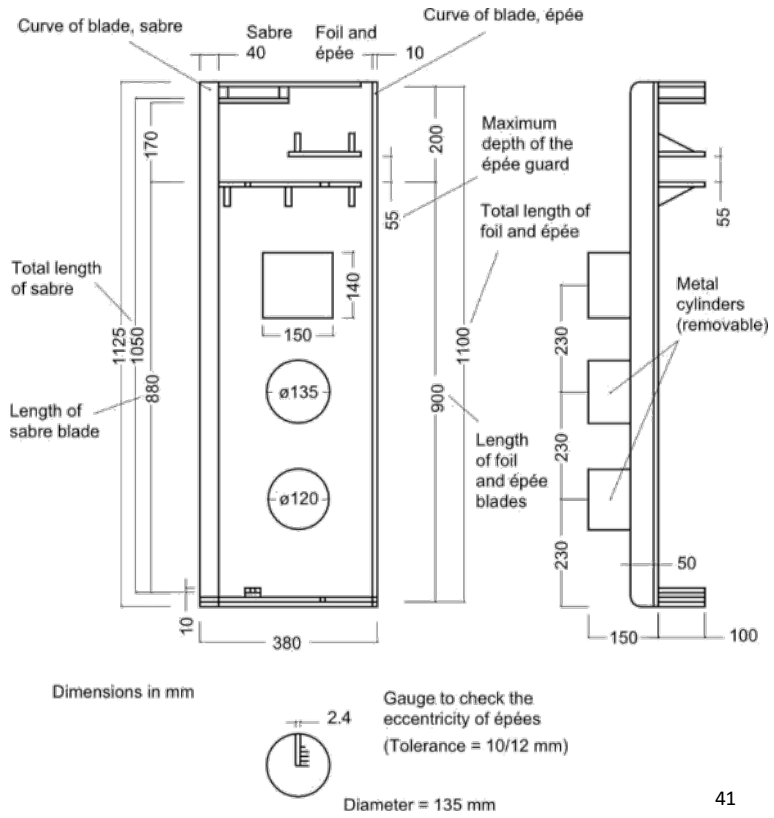



**Figure 28: Example of Testing Gauge - Gabarit**

## 2. Flexibility Testing Devices

Devices for measuring the flexibility of blades at foil, épée, and sabre in accordance with the test procedures specified in Chapter 2.

## 3. Mask Resistance Testing Devices

Devices for testing the resistance of mask mesh to deformation in accordance with the standards specified in Chapter 3.

## 4. Electrical Testing Apparatus

Electrical checking devices capable of quickly verifying:

a. Electrical resistance of body wires.

b. Correct assembly of body wires and weapons.

c. Resistance of conductive jackets.

d. Functionality of tip assemblies.

e. Continuity of electrical circuits.

### 5. Spring Pressure Testing Weights

a. Weights of 500 g (±2 g tolerance) for testing foil tip springs (see m.10).

b. Weights of 750 g (±3 g tolerance) for testing épée tip springs (see m.20).

c. Weights must be provided:

i. At all locations that conduct official weapons control.

ii. At each piste during competition.

### 6. Tip Travel Gauges

a. Devices allowing accurate measurement of (see m.10, m.20 and m.57):

i. Travel tolerance (épée).

ii. Residual travel (épée).

iii. Total travel (foil and épée).

b. Gauges must be provided both:

i. At all locations that conduct official weapons control.

ii. At each piste during competition.

### 7. Checking Marks and Labels

Sufficient quantities of:

a. Adhesive labels for approved equipment.

b. Adhesive labels for rejected equipment.

c. Special ink or paint for marking weapons.

d. Stamps for marking conductive jackets.

e. Any other marking materials specified by the Directoire Technique and/or the SEMI.

### 8. Additional Apparatus for Major Competitions

At World Championships and Olympic Games:

a. Additional testing equipment may be required by the FIE.

b. Additional testing equipment must be reviewed and approved by a group that consists of at least the SEMI President or their designee and the FIE Executive Committee Representative of the SEMI or their designee and one additional SEMI Commission member.

## 3. Conductive Jacket Checking and Stamping

1. The Organizing Committee must provide a special stamp to be affixed to each conductive jacket after its electrical resistance has been verified.
2. The checking stamp on a conductive jacket indicates that resistance has been tested (see m.30 and m.59) but does not constitute final approval for use.
3. The referee makes the final decision on whether a conductive jacket may be used.
4. The referee must verify before each bout that:

a. The conductive jacket bears a valid checking stamp, AND

b. The conductive jacket entirely covers the valid target area;

c. The jacket is in good condition with no holes or defects.

**4. Marking Materials for Weapons**

Special ink or paint must be provided to mark the guards, blades, and points of weapons that have been checked and approved.

**5. Facilities, Equipment, and Workspace**

1. The Organizing Committee must provide adequate facilities for weapons checking, including (see m.56 and m.62):
    a. Sufficient workspace for checking teams to operate efficiently.
    b. Adequate lighting for inspection of equipment.
    c. Secure storage for equipment awaiting checking or collection.
    d. Separate areas for checking stations and repair workshops (if provided).
    e. Access to electrical power for testing apparatus.
2. The organizers must make available equipment for immediate repair of the piste.

**6. Approval, Calibration and Maintenance of Gauges**

1. All checking apparatus must be calibrated and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and FIE standards.
2. The Directoire Technique and/or the SEMI, if applicable, may verify calibration of checking apparatus before or during the competition.
3. The checking gauge as specified in Figure 28 (the Gabarit) requires shop-drawings (e.g. CAD drawings, etc.) showing measurements and tolerances to be submitted and approved by the SEMI Commission prior to manufacture.

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**Proposal 105**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.62**

**Motivation:** Article m.62 "Weapons Control Staffing and Organization" is an entirely new provision. The old M Book contained only a brief mention of workshop teams (old m.42) without detailed staffing composition, station requirements, workflow procedures, or coordination protocols. The new article provides a comprehensive framework for weapons control operations covering staffing composition and assigned roles, number of checking stations, workflow through weapons control (dimensional checking, electrical testing, marking and return), coordination and supervision, and communication with fencers.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for weapons control staffing and organizational structure
2. Defines specific team roles (dimensional, electrical, marking, operations management)
3. Establishes station requirements based on competition size
4. Introduces detailed workflow, supervision, and fencer communication procedures

---

## m.62. Weapons Control Staffing and Organization

### 1. Weapons Control Staffing Composition

1. To carry out checking properly and efficiently, the Weapons Check can be organized into teams.
2. Each team should consist of a minimum of four leads with assigned roles: a. First person: Checks weapons for dimensional conformity by passing them through gauges and conducting visual inspection. b. Second person: Conducts all electrical tests (body wires, weapons, conductive jackets). c. Third person: Affixes checking marks to approved equipment and returns equipment to fencers' bags or storage. d. Fourth person: Manages the operations and flow of the checking operations.

### 2. Number of Stations

1. The number of checking stations must be appropriate to the size of the competition.
2. For major competitions, a minimum of three stations should be provided to ensure efficient processing of equipment.
3. The number of checking stations required is based on: a. Number of fencers; b. Amount of equipment to be checked; c. Time available for checking; d. Competition schedule.

### 3. Workflow Through Weapons Control

1. Equipment should flow through each station:
2. Dimensional Checking (as required by m.4, m.6, m.14, m.23, and m.57): a. Visual inspection of weapons. b. Gauge testing for length, diameter, depth (see m.4, m.6, m.14, m.23 and m.57). c. Flexibility testing of blades. d. Identification of obvious defects.
3. Electrical Testing (as required by m.9, m.10, m.20, m.26 and Chapter 4): a. Body wire resistance and continuity testing. b. Weapon electrical circuit testing. c. Conductive jacket resistance testing. d. Tip assembly pressure and travel testing.
4. Marking and Return: a. Application of checking marks to approved equipment (see m.59). b. Application of rejection marks to non-conforming equipment (see m.60). c. Recording of checked equipment. d. Return of equipment to storage or fencer. e. Equipment that fails at any station must be removed from the workflow and handled in accordance with m.60.

### 4. Coordination and Supervision

1. The SEMI representative supervises the operation of checking stations:
2. Supervision includes: a. Ensuring consistent application of checking standards; b. Resolving questions or disputes regarding conformity; c. Managing workflow and queue priorities; d. Addressing irregular equipment in accordance with m.60.

### 5. Communication with Fencers

The Weapons Control should establish clear procedures for:

a. Informing fencers of checking schedules;

b. Notifying fencers when equipment is ready for collection;

c. Explaining rejection reasons;

d. Providing information about repair and re-checking procedures.

---

**Proposal 106**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.63**

**Motivation:** Article m.63 “Electrical Judging Equipment Provided by Organizers” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book listed organizer-provided electrical equipment within the general checking article (old m.42) without a dedicated scope or conflict-resolution clause. The new article creates a clear overview of the electrical judging system components that organizers must provide, references Chapter 4 for detailed specifications, and establishes a conflict-resolution rule where Chapter 4 prevails.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated overview article for organizer-provided electrical judging equipment
2. Lists the full scope of required equipment (central apparatus, spools, pistes, power, clock systems)
3. Establishes Chapter 4 as the prevailing authority for detailed specifications
4. Adds explicit provision for wireless apparatus at Veterans World Championships

---

## Part 5: Overview of Organizer’s Electrical Equipment

## m.63. Electrical Judging Equipment Provided by Organizers

### 1. Scope of Organizer-Provided Equipment

1. The electrical judging system for competition includes equipment provided by the Organizing Committee which consists of, but not limited to: a. The central judging

apparatus with extension lamps. b. Spools with cables and connections, or cables suspended overhead. c. The conductive piste(s). d. The source of electrical current. e. For finals of official FIE competitions: a clock linked to the apparatus controlling the audible signal and electrical registering of hits (see Chapter 4).

2. Detailed specifications for equipment (central judging apparatus — wired and wireless, spools, cables, connectors, piste(s), power source, clock and timing systems, and prohibited equipment) are set out in Chapter 4.
3. Where conflicts arise between this article and Chapter 4, the provisions of Chapter 4 prevail.
4. Wireless apparatus is optional at the Veterans World Championships.

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**Proposal 107**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.64**

**Motivation:** Article m.64 “Purpose and Principles” is the opening article of new Chapter 6 (Homologation of Fencing Equipment and Materials). The old M Book addressed homologation primarily in Annexe A with introductory text, field of application, and process descriptions mixed together. The new article establishes clear foundational principles: mandatory homologation for FIE-logo equipment, the role of the SEMI Commission under COMEX supervision, the certificate issuance process, and the prohibition on production before homologation completion.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated opening article for the new Homologation chapter
2. Establishes the mandatory nature of homologation for all FIE-logo equipment
3. Clarifies SEMI Commission authority under COMEX supervision
4. Codifies the prohibition on production before certificate issuance

---

## Chapter 6: Homologation of Fencing Equipment and Materials

### m.64. Purpose and Principles

1. Fencing material used in official FIE competitions and carrying the FIE logo must, without exception, have obtained a valid FIE homologation certificate confirming that the specific item of material complies with all applicable FIE Rules including the competition requirements (Chapters 2–5).
2. The homologation procedure is carried out by the FIE SEMI Commission under the supervision of a representative of the FIE Executive Committee (COMEX) (m.65).

3. A homologation certificate is issued only after the equipment has successfully passed the complete homologation process described in this Chapter and in the relevant technical handbooks.
4. Manufacturers must wait for the homologation process to be completed, the result to be published and the certificate to be issued before beginning production and/or commercialization of equipment bearing the FIE logo, marks and label (m.70).

---

**Proposal 108**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.65**

**Motivation:** Article m.65 "SEMI Commission and Expert Involvement" is an entirely new provision. The old M Book mentioned the SEMI Commission's composition briefly in Annexe A but did not enumerate its specific responsibilities or formalize expert involvement requirements. The new article defines six core SEMI Commission responsibilities and establishes mandatory involvement of Rules Commission delegates for software homologation and Refereeing Commission delegates for video-refereeing systems.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article defining SEMI Commission responsibilities for homologation
2. Enumerates six specific responsibilities from application review to penalty recommendation
3. Formalizes external expert consultation authority
4. Mandates Rules Commission and Refereeing Commission delegates for software and video systems

---

## m.65. SEMI Commission and Expert Involvement

### 1. SEMI Commission Responsibilities

1. Review and approval of homologation applications.
2. Oversight of laboratory testing and certification.
3. Maintenance of approved equipment lists.
4. Quality control and random testing.
5. Investigation of non-conforming equipment.
6. Recommendation of penalties for violations.

### 2. Expert Involvement

1. When necessary, the SEMI Commission may consult external experts from relevant technical fields in order to ensure the quality and reliability of the homologation process.
2. For software homologation, the presence of a delegate from the Rules Commission is mandatory.
3. For video-refereeing systems, the presence of a delegate from the Refereeing Commission is mandatory.

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**Proposal 109**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.66**

**Motivation:** Article m.66 “Equipment for Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book’s Annexe A contained a brief “field of application” paragraph listing equipment categories in running text. The new article provides a structured enumeration of all equipment categories requiring compulsory homologation (blades, points, protective clothing, masks and gloves, scoring apparatus, pistes, video-refereeing systems, and competition management software), with an explicit extensibility clause and a distinction for traditional pointes d’arrêt.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article enumerating equipment categories requiring homologation
2. Provides a structured list replacing the old running-text description
3. Adds an explicit extensibility clause for the FIE Executive Committee
4. Distinguishes traditional pointes d’arrêt from designs requiring separate homologation

---

## m.66. Equipment for Homologation

1. Homologation is compulsory for at least the following categories of equipment: a. Blades. b. Points (foil and épée). (m.66.4) c. Protective clothing (jackets, breeches, under-plastrons). d. Masks and gloves. e. Fencing scoring apparatus (wired and wireless). f. Conductive pistes. g. Video-refereeing systems. h. Competition management software.
2. This list is not exhaustive. The FIE Executive Committee may extend the list of equipment requiring homologation at any time.
3. Homologated equipment must also comply with the competition-side obligations in this Book.
4. Traditional pointes d’arrêt of standard design are accepted for use in FIE competitions without requiring separate homologation. All other pointe d’arrêt designs require homologation under this Chapter.

**Proposal 110**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.67**

**Motivation:** Article m.67 “Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book’s Annexe A described the homologation process in eight numbered steps mixing procedural details with administrative requirements. The new article restructures this into five clear sub-sections: Process (referencing the Materials Homologation Handbook), Laboratory (approved institutes), Provisional Homologation (competition testing), Final Analysis and Issuing of the Certificate, and Publication of homologation decisions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for the homologation process and certificate issuance
2. References the Materials Homologation Handbook for detailed procedural steps
3. Establishes provisional homologation for competition-condition evaluation
4. Formalizes certificate issuance requirements (physical or digital) and publication on the FIE website

---

## m.67. Homologation

### 1. Process

The request for homologation must follow the process detailed in the Materials Homologation Handbook.

### 2. Laboratory

The list of specialized institutes and/or laboratories approved by the SEMI Commission is updated regularly and communicated to the Executive Committee.

### 3. Provisional Homologation

1. For equipment that must be evaluated under competition conditions, the SEMI Commission may grant a provisional homologation limited to use at one specific competition.
2. The competition used for such testing is agreed between the SEMI President, the representative of the Executive Committee, the supplier, and the organizer of the selected competition.

## 4. Final Analysis and Issuing of the Certificate

1. Every member of the SEMI Commission must receive the full documentation.
2. Full homologation documentation is not made publicly available.
3. Only the President or their designee may issue the FIE Certificate.
4. The FIE Certificate must either be issued physically with the signature of the SEMI President or their designee or use software that provides a digital certificate.

## 5. Publication

1. Final homologation decisions are published on the FIE website.
2. CE/EC certificates and test reports are issued by specialized institutes; the SEMI Commission maintains and publishes lists of equipment that has obtained FIE homologation, together with the corresponding certificates.

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**Proposal 111**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.68**

**Motivation:** Article m.68 “Homologation Modification Management” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain explicit rules governing modifications to homologated equipment or the consequences of unreported changes. The new article establishes that homologation remains valid for the duration specified in certificates provided no modification is made, requires immediate reporting of safety- or performance-affecting modifications to the SEMI President, mandates full re-homologation for modified equipment, and defines the scope of modifications (external appearance, composition, internal structure, software/firmware, and manufacturing process).

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for managing modifications to homologated equipment
2. Establishes validity duration tied to certificates and technical handbooks
3. Requires immediate notification of modifications affecting safety or performance
4. Defines a comprehensive scope of what constitutes a modification requiring re-homologation

---

## m.68. Homologation Modification Management

1. Homologation remains valid for the duration specified in the issued certificates and relevant technical handbooks, provided that no modification is made to the equipment or to its manufacturing process (see Materials Handbook).

2. Any modification to homologated equipment that affects the safety or performance of the original equipment must be reported immediately to the President of the SEMI Commission. a. Modified equipment must undergo the full homologation process again. b. Modifications include any change affecting: i. External appearance. ii. Composition or materials. iii. Internal structure or content. iv. Software, firmware, or embedded logic. v. Manufacturing process or any other element relevant to safety or performance.

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**Proposal 112**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.69**

**Motivation:** Article m.69 “Technical Handbooks” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book referenced technical requirements within the body of the rules themselves and in Annexe A without a formal framework for standalone technical handbooks. The new article establishes that technical handbooks are drawn up by the SEMI Commission and approved by the Executive Committee, defines their content (detailed technical requirements, test methods and acceptance criteria, validity periods), and cross-references them throughout the Book.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article formalizing the role of technical handbooks in the rules framework
2. Establishes SEMI Commission authorship with Executive Committee approval
3. Defines required handbook content: technical requirements, test methods, and validity periods
4. Provides cross-references to the relevant chapters of this Book

---

**m.69. Technical Handbooks**

1. Technical handbooks are drawn up by the SEMI Commission and submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.
2. Each category of equipment has its own specific technical handbook setting out: a. Detailed technical requirements. b. Test methods and acceptance criteria. c. Validity periods and conditions for re-homologation.
3. These handbooks are referenced throughout this Book, including m.27, m.28, m.42 and Chapter 5.

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**Proposal 113**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.70**

**Motivation:** Article m.70 “FIE Mark and Label of Quality” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book mentioned the FIE quality label briefly in Annexe A (field of application) and in scattered references to quality labels on clothing and equipment, but did not dedicate an article to trademark protection, authorized use, manufacturer guarantees, or misuse consequences. The new article establishes the FIE emblem as a registered trademark, restricts its use to successfully homologated equipment from suppliers in good standing, requires manufacturers to guarantee compliance, and references enforcement under m.71–m.73.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for FIE trademark and quality label protection
2. Establishes authorized use conditions: valid homologation and good standing
3. Codifies manufacturer guarantee of compliance when affixing the FIE label
4. References enforcement actions under m.71, m.72, and m.73 for misuse

---

### m.70. FIE Mark and Label of Quality

1. The FIE emblem is a registered trademark.
2. The emblem and any FIE label of quality may only be affixed to equipment that has successfully completed the FIE homologation process, holds a valid homologation certificate and is a supplier of good standing with the FIE.
3. By affixing the FIE label of quality to their equipment, manufacturers guarantee that all such marked equipment complies with the technical and safety requirements of the FIE.
4. The FIE label of quality must remain visible and legible.
5. Misuse may result in actions under m.71, m.72, and m.73.

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**Proposal 114**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.71**

**Motivation:** Article m.71 “Expenses” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book addressed examination expenses only briefly in a single clause (old m.50) limited to SEMI Committee examination costs. The new article broadens the scope to cover all expenses and costs related to homologation, re-homologation, periodic checks, and modification-related reviews across all equipment categories, placing the financial responsibility entirely on the applicant.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article consolidating all homologation-related expense responsibilities
2. Broadens the scope beyond examination costs to include re-homologation and periodic checks
3. Covers all equipment categories explicitly (masks, blades, clothing, apparatus, software, video)
4. Places financial responsibility clearly on the applicant

---

### m.71. Expenses

All expenses and costs related to the homologation, re-homologation, periodic checks and modification-related reviews of equipment, including but not limited to masks, blades, breeches, jackets, under-plastrons, pistes, scoring apparatus, software and video systems, are borne by the applicant.

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**Proposal 115**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.72**

**Motivation:** Article m.72 “Withdrawal, Suspension, or Reinstatement of Homologation” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain explicit procedures for withdrawing, suspending, or reinstating homologation, nor did it enumerate enforcement measures beyond the general homologation process. The new article establishes grounds for withdrawal or suspension (non-conformity, competition-checking findings, unreported modifications), requires notification and publication of decisions, provides for reinstatement via the Materials Homologation Handbook, and enumerates five categories of additional enforcement measures.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for homologation withdrawal, suspension, and reinstatement
2. Defines three specific grounds for withdrawal or suspension
3. Requires manufacturer notification and public decision publication on the FIE website
4. Enumerates five enforcement measures from formal warnings to public notification of findings

---

### m.72. Withdrawal, Suspension, or Reinstatement of Homologation

1. Homologation may be withdrawn or suspended by the SEMI Commission if it becomes aware that: a. The homologated equipment no longer conforms to the applicable FIE

Rules; or b. Consistent non-conformities identified during competition checking (Chapter 5); or c. After homologation has been granted, the equipment or its manufacturing process has been significantly modified, and the modification has not been submitted for a new homologation.

2. In case of withdrawal, suspension or reinstatement, the SEMI Commission informs the manufacturer and publishes the decision and its effective date on the FIE website.
3. Reinstatement of homologation follows the procedure specified in the Materials Homologation Handbook.
4. The SEMI Commission may, in addition to withdrawal or suspension, impose the following measures: a. Formal warnings. b. Requirements for corrective action within a specified timeframe. c. Financial penalties, the schedule and amounts of which are determined by the FIE. d. Temporary prohibition from submitting new homologation applications for a specified period. e. Public notification of non-conformity findings.
5. Penalty types for these measures are detailed in the Materials Homologation Handbook (mh.10).

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**Proposal 116**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Article m.73**

**Motivation:** Article m.73 “Quality Control” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not contain a dedicated quality control framework for homologated equipment. The new article establishes ongoing periodic reviews for all homologated equipment, empowers the SEMI Commission to obtain and test random market samples, defines the process for handling non-conformities discovered through quality control, and references enforcement measures under m.72 for serious cases.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated article for post-homologation quality control
2. Establishes mandatory periodic reviews with published schedules
3. Empowers the SEMI Commission to conduct random market sampling and independent testing
4. Defines escalation procedures for non-conformity findings including potential homologation loss

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### m.73. Quality Control

1. Homologated equipment must be subject to ongoing periodic reviews following approval to maintain homologation status. The periodic review requirements, including frequency

and method of evaluation are defined separately for each weapon and category of equipment (see Materials Handbook).

2. The applicable periodic review schedule, including any periodic evaluation requirements, is established and published through official FIE channels.
3. The FIE reserves the right to amend the periodic review schedule and associated requirements.
4. Failure to complete periodic checks within the timeframes specified in the relevant technical handbooks may result in withdrawal of homologation under m.72.
5. The SEMI Commission may obtain random samples of any specific item of fencing equipment available on the market that is claimed to be FIE-homologated.
6. These samples may be subjected to technical analysis for quality control purposes.
7. If there is any doubt as to the quality of the item, the SEMI Commission may send it directly to a certified independent institute for testing.
8. Tests are carried out in accordance with the applicable FIE material rules and relevant regulatory standards.
9. If the tests reveal any non-conformity or degradation in quality, the SEMI Commission takes appropriate measures, which may include those specified in m.72.
10. In serious cases, the manufacturer may lose an existing FIE homologation for the equipment concerned (m.72, m.68).

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**Proposal 117**

**Presented by: SEMI Commission**

**Note 1**

**Motivation:** Note 1 “Distinction Between Homologation and Event-Specific Approval” is an entirely new provision. The old M Book did not explicitly distinguish between manufacturer-level homologation and event-specific apparatus approval, which led to confusion among stakeholders. The new note clarifies the two distinct processes: homologation (Chapter 6) certifies a design and manufacturing process across all competitions, while event-specific approval (Chapter 4, Section 2) authorizes specific apparatus for use at one World Championship or Olympic Games. Both processes are required for scoring apparatus at official FIE competitions.

This reorganization:

1. Creates a dedicated explanatory note distinguishing two commonly confused processes
2. Clarifies that homologation is manufacturer-level certification valid across all competitions
3. Clarifies that event-specific approval authorizes apparatus for one particular competition
4. States that both processes are required for scoring apparatus at official FIE competitions

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## Note 1: Distinction Between Homologation and Event-Specific Approval

1. The homologation process described in this Chapter is distinct from the event-specific approval process for scoring apparatus described in Chapter 4, Section 2 (Authorization and Event-Level Approval).
2. Homologation concerns manufacturer compliance (Chapter 6): Certifies that a design and manufacturing process for a category of equipment meets FIE technical and safety standards. Valid for the duration specified in technical handbooks, across all competitions.
3. Event-specific apparatus approval concerns use at a particular competition (Chapter 4, Section 2): Approves a specific set of scoring apparatus, spools, and connections for use at one World Championship or Olympic Games.
4. Both processes are required for scoring apparatus used at official FIE competitions.

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## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Publicity Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 118**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: p.12**

**Motivation:** Add clarity to p12.2 and format language versions. Article p12.2 has confusing language and inconsistent formatting between the versions. Adopting the Spanish format and clarifying language would make this more easily understood.

**p.12** Advertising which is worn or carried

2. Fencing clothing and equipment

a) If a federation and/or a fencer have signed a sponsorship contract with a commercial or other company, the logo of that sponsorship partner may be fixed at a rate of maximum of 3 logos, with a maximum area of 85 cm2 each;

In foil and epee: at the top of the sleeve of the non-sword arm of the fencing jacket; in sabre: at the top of the thigh of the non-sword side of the fencing breeches and clearly separated from the national logo.

- on the socks;

- on the glove, a maximum of one logo of 30 cm2 , printed on the cuff, (attachment by sewing and gluing is not allowed);

- on the collarbones, a maximum of two logos, one each side, with a maximum area of 50cm2 each;

- on the collar of the fencing jacket or electric fencing jacket, a maximum of one logo with a maximum area of 30 cm2 ;

- on the back, a maximum of one logo, below the nationality code, with a maximum area of 250 cm2 .

The sponsor's logo may be displayed on each side of the mask. Maximum size: 100 cm2 on each side of the mask.

~~a)~~ b) A fencer may not display more than ten such logos in total.

**Opinion of the SEMI Commission:** Approved

# RAPPORT DE LA COMMISSION SEMI DE LA FIE
# FIE SEMI COMMISSION REPORT
# INFORME DE LA COMISIÓN SEMI DE LA FIE

| | |
|---|---|
| **Date, lieu et heure de la réunion :**<br>**Date, place and time of the meeting:**<br>**Fecha, lugar y horario de la reunión:** | **16-17 July 2026**<br>**Place: Sophia, Bulgaria** |
| **Participants:**<br>**Participants:**<br>**Participantes:** | Perovic, Novak<br>Assadorian, Sarkis<br>Brandule, Baiba<br>Eberl Lopez, Maria<br>Hashem, Samer<br>Hou, Zhigang<br>Huggins, Janet<br>Larbi, Emir<br>Saleem, Zeyad<br>Wauters, Piet<br>Zimmermann, Felicia |
| **Absences (indiquer si l'absence avait été annoncée) :**<br>**Absent (indicate if the absence had been announced):**<br>**Ausencias (indicar si la ausencia fue anunciada):** | None |

## INTRODUCTION
## INTRODUCTION
## INTRODUCCIÓN

The SEMI Commission met over two working days to advance its technical and governance agenda. The principal areas addressed were the update of the FIE Statutes concerning Commission composition; the restructuring of the Material ("M") Book and a chapter-by-chapter review of the material rules; equipment standards, electrical testing and scoring-apparatus provisions; homologation, manufacturer markings and the labelling / track-and-trace project; the mandate and division of responsibility of the SEMI delegate at competitions; World Cup and Grand Prix delegate reports; weapons-control and call-room operating standards; and the framework for the Technicians Academy. Administrative support, funding and implementation capacity were discussed throughout as cross-cutting enablers.

## RAPPORT DE LA RÉUNION
## MEETING REPORT
## INFORME DE LA REUNIÓN

### M Book Restructuring and Rule Updates

1. **Updated rulebook architecture.** Each chapter now opens with global requirements: Scope, application, definitions, safety principles, prohibition of circumvention (no modification of equipment) and functional integrity. Followed by precise, numbered rules so that any rule can be

located by number and line. Weapon components (blade, tang, guard, handle, socket) are described in a consistent order across weapons.

2. **Measurement planes and blade length.** Weapon geometry is defined using reference planes (A–E) that run consistently through the book. Concerns how blade length is measured: members agreed that measurement is taken between the defined planes with the blade straight (planes parallel and perpendicular to the blade axis), and that a bent blade must be straightened before checking. The Commission agreed that the relevant drawing should be redrawn (using the gabarit) to make this explicit, and that maximum-deflection tolerance be referenced.
3. **Functional-integrity wordin**g. The general clause requiring a weapon to remain "structurally sound and functionally reliable under normal competitive use" was judged too vague to enforce. The agreed direction is to qualify it with "as set out in this book" so that authority to judge soundness rests with SEMI/FIE; the President will ask the Legal Commission to supply precise wording.
4. **Flexibility definition (foil)**. The flexibility diagram and its labels (h1/h2 and the definition of F) were disputed. The Commission agreed the drawing should be revised for clarity (e.g., distinguishing measurement points), while the underlying measurement method was retained for this cycle.
5. **Guard material and epee handle covering**. Reports of foil guards degrading and breaking prompted a proposal to specify guard material. Because a full material specification (weight, thickness, e-marking) is not yet available, the Commission agreed to add a reference that guard material must conform to the Homologation Book, deferring detailed specifications pending testing. On the epee handle, members agreed to retain the existing covering-removal check for this cycle (to detect concealed wiring/switches), with a view to reconsidering after Los Angeles now that video makes manipulation easier to detect.
6. **Clothing markings (names).** The size and stitching of athlete names on jackets were debated at length, prompted by field problems (rejections and damaged jackets). The recurring view was that names, sizing and color sit more naturally with the Promotion Commission / publicity code, while SEMI would specify only material-related requirements; no final numeric rule (minimum height / height-to-name ratio / two-line names) was settled, and the matter was referred to the Promotion Commission. Fabric samples have been sent to a laboratory to test whether materials withstand stitching.
7. **National logo approval**. Responsibility for approving national logos (and new/changed logos) should sit with the Promotion Commission; approved logos are then verified by SEMI in the control room. After discussion with the Promotion Commission, the PCM is to develop updated logo guidelines (sizing, color, materials), targeted before the start of the next season / next Congress; SEMI will supply only material-related specifications and non-conformity reports.
8. **Drawings and legacy material**. Several figures require new technical drawings (e.g., foil tip/assembly exploded views, right- and left-handed variants by mirroring, insulation and threading details). Older versions of the material rules and missing referenced images are being recovered and consolidated into a single archive. Action for E. Larbi to generate drawings.
9. **Meeting with Rules Commission:** Discussed collaboration on rules. Approval of the updated architecture of the rules book and the homologation handbook.
10. **Meeting with the Referees Commission**: Provided feedback on specific wording and changes were made directly into the updated rules document and completed.

## Equipment Standards, Testing, and Scoring Apparatus

1. **Electrical resistance and tolerances.** The Commission reviewed resistance limits (e.g., conductive jacket at 5 ohms; body-wire limits). It agreed that the 5-ohm value should be retained and that any tolerance must be defined explicitly rather than by raising the limit; a tolerance is to be documented and validated by testing. Members noted apparatus rejects hits above roughly 500 ohms, so stacked circuit resistances remain well within safe bounds.
2. **Environmental effects.** The effect of humidity and heat on resistance was flagged for investigation; laboratory testing (rather than in-competition testing) was proposed, potentially using resistors to isolate variables. Wireless apparatus was treated as off the agenda for this cycle.

3. **Scoring-apparatus chapter:** The scoring-apparatus chapter (machines, spools, cables, pistes, power supply, lamps, displays) was judged to contain excessive and duplicated technical detail repeated per weapon. The agreed direction is to keep in the M Book only what referees and fencers need, move detailed technical specifications (including power supply and timing) to the Homologation Book, and remove obsolete provisions (e.g., removable caps, external timers). A member volunteered to prepare a consolidated proposal within about one week.
4. **Rationale for moving detail to homologation.** Placing technical specifications in the Homologation Book allows the Commission to update them without returning to Congress, while items a delegate must actively verify on-site remain in the M Book. Extension lamps were cited as an example: the M Book should state only minimum size/placement principles, with detailed usage in the World Cup handbook.
5. **Testing equipment procurement.** With funding confirmed (see Section 9), the Commission agreed to purchase testing machines (e.g., several units) to be carried to competitions by delegates/assistants rather than left with event management, addressing repeated field shortages of gabarits and testers.
6. **AI / video systems (COMEX request).** COMEX asked SEMI to develop proposals for authorized use of AI-assisted video systems already appearing at some competitions, and to help standardize video-referee and software systems. This was recorded as a request for a future proposal, not a decision.

## Homologation, Manufacturer Markings, and Track-and-Trace

1. **Labelling / track-and-trace project.** The Commission reviewed a phased project to reduce counterfeiting and improve equipment-safety traceability. Each item receives a unique, encrypted (QR-style) code applied by the manufacturer, beginning with clothing (mask, jacket, breeches, underarm protector) and extending to blades via laser engraving.
2. **Process flow and database.** Draft proposal on a process flow which needs to be reviewed with manufacturers. In the future, ideally the FIE Office can act as the main facilitator/coordinator. It was discussed with the FIE CEO to initiate a small task force to help implement the process for the pilot to work through what longer-term needs would be.
3. **Limits acknowledged.** Members acknowledged that a label physically transferred to a counterfeit item cannot be fully prevented; detection will rely on serialization and statistical/trend analysis at weapons control rather than case-by-case certainty. Expiry dates and the ability to suspend specific products (temporary bans) were noted as safeguards. Implementation will proceed as Phase 1 and be refined through experience.
4. **Storage and logistics.** SEMI equipment is currently in storage in Lausanne. SEMI may need FIE-office support, and until then, the SEMI Commission President will determine a new method to check and store equipment.

## SEMI Delegate Mandate and Inter-Commission Coordination

1. **Establish a RACI to share with Sport Director.** The Commission agreed that responsibilities of the SEMI delegate are insufficiently defined, creating recurring “grey areas” with the Directoire Technique (DT) and event-management teams over the control room, call room and field of play. It agreed to draft a clear, written mandate / responsibility matrix, to be taken by the Executive-Committee representative to COMEX for approval.
2. **Reviewing SEMI mandate in rules book.** The Commission noted the organizational rules assign the DT technical management / venue setup, but that a recent provision states that in case of conflict between the DT and the relevant official FIE delegate, the decision of the FIE delegate prevails. The agreed reading is that the DT is accountable for organization while SEMI is responsible, as subject-matter expert, for technical and safety matters within its scope.

3. **Authority to intervene.** Members agreed that where a technical or safety condition is unsafe (e.g., podium too high, missing runoff/isolation, cabling hazards), the SEMI delegate is responsible for identifying it and may stop or require correction, seeking a workable compromise. Where the DT disagrees, the delegate should immediately send a written report (email) to the President, copying the Executive Committee representative, to record the issue.
4. **Scope clarifications.** Networking and software standards were confirmed to fall within SEMI's technical scope: SEMI will need to set specifications standards so that they can be verified on-site. Podium minimum dimensions were noted as already updated in the handbook (following medical-commission input). P. Wauters to create initial draft standards for software and for networking using 3rd party experts.
5. **Earlier engagement if delegates.** The Commission agreed that delegates should be appointed earlier and engaged with organizers ahead of events, so set up, staffing and equipment can be verified in advance.
6. **Communicating the mandate.** Because SEMI's role is not well understood by organizers and others, members discussed a controlled, FIE-approved awareness/communication effort (e.g., short informational videos) explaining what SEMI does and what athletes can expect at weapons control.

## Tournament Operations and Delegate Reports

Delegates debriefed on recent World Cups and Grand Prix events. Recurring themes were volunteer availability and training, weapons-control staffing and capacity, equipment shortages, control-room size and queueing, podium/piste safety, networking, and local coordination.

### Discussion on GP Events

- **Tunis, Tunisia**: inexperienced crew required significant on-site training; limited gabarits caused long queues; delegate's own testers helped. Recommendation: Schedule train sessions for inexperienced teams.
- **Budapest, Hungary**: room initially too small; no equipment buffering led to ~30-minute queues; local ad-hoc software adequate for tracking; podium slightly high but wide with good slope.
- **Lima, Peru** : smooth; delegate used a ~30-item quick-reference checklist sent to the organizer a month ahead; names/logos and podium issues noted (five-centimeter names rejected as too small).
- **Doha, Qatar**: adequate space and equipment; three lines; laser etching; short waits; referee/call-room timing issues attributed to DT/event management, not SEMI.
- **Medellín, Columbia**: volunteers trained the day before; a podium-piste centering/runoff/isolation issue was corrected overnight after the delegate insisted; sewn-logo and conductivity solutions shared (a Canadian rope method praised).
- **Turino, Italy**: SEMI role unclear on arrival; local technicians experienced but under-staffed for a percussion (check-in/check-out) system they had not been briefed on; slippery metallic pistes reported (a recurring Italian-federation issue also seen in Padua).
- **Shanghai, China**: strong head technician; ample space; volunteer shortage and hand-etching slowed peak flow; a miscommunication in the official invitation about opening times caused early queues; gabarit not used and not available.
- **Seoul, Korea**: no proper testing machines available (only one gabarit; small testers hastily purchased); call room smaller than required for the number of bags. Recorded as a serious capacity failure requiring pre-event verification.

## Weapons Control and Call-Room Standards

1. **Re-iterate Purpose and scope.** Weapons control inspects, verifies, and identifies/isolates non-compliant equipment to support athlete safety and fair play, provides equipment control and traceability, and serves as the technical interface among athletes, team staff, referees and the DT.

The call room performs a final verification that equipment has not changed since weapons control before it goes to the field of play (the referee performs no weight/gauge checks).

2. **Weapons-control room.** The Commission worked toward a standard for the weapons-control area: minimum three workstations (four at peak for several hours); five staff plus one line manager per workstation; per-station equipment including a gabarit, an approved large tester (e.g., Favero F2), 3–4 testers, stamps with permanent ink, stickers for guards/wires, weights and gauges, and a tablet where software is used; a laser-etching station (with eye-protection or a screened machine); a box/collection system with a display board indicating readiness; tables and chairs matched to staff numbers; and a weighing machine and micrometer for verifying weights and gauges.
3. **Call room.** A distinction was drawn between the technical space (SEMI) and the athletes'/referees' waiting area (DT). The technical space (approx. 40–50 $m^2$) should have color-coded inspection stations aligned to piste colors, two workstations, one gabarit (used only for suspicion checks), a large tester, stamps/stickers (any re-stickered weapon must be re-tested first), weights and gauges, bags, and a single tablet for the whole area. Non-compliant equipment is retained, clearly labelled, and returned after the event.
4. **Final-verification presentation.** A presentation on final team-event equipment verification was reviewed: volunteers positioned near the piste (one per team end, not in camera view), each with a small tester, weights, gauges and a bag, monitoring bouts to test weapons/wires as fencers come off. The presentation is to be finalized and shared with the group, event-management teams and DTs.
5. **Other observations.** Practices to standardize include laser etching over hand etching/marker; box-based collection to cut queues; permanent-ink stamps (ordinary stamps wash out); and clarity that testing socks is discontinued.

## Technicians Academy

1. **Governance.** The Commission set out a division of responsibility: SEMI sets standards and validates the curriculum and assessments; the Academy delivers education and administers certification; and the Executive Committee approves the framework, pricing and contracts.
2. **Certification levels.** Four levels were discussed: Assistant Technician (open to all; single-task volunteers with awareness-level knowledge); Technician (able to work any station, provide basic field-of-play support and troubleshoot; may initially qualify in a single weapon); Senior Technician (able to run a zone — set up weapons control or a call room — and perform field-of-play repairs); and Master Technician (able to run weapons-control operations for a whole tournament, train volunteers, coordinate with the local organizer and SEMI delegate, and act as on-site FIE technical liaison).
3. **Competency framework.** A competency matrix would rate levels (e.g., awareness / core / advanced / expert) across areas such as material rules, safety, weapons and equipment control, piste and scoring-apparatus setup, emergency repair, documentation and defect logging, testing methodologies and quality checks, ethics, leadership, and modern systems (VAR, tablets, networking.
4. **Repair boundaries.** Emergency response for Technicians is to troubleshoot-and-swap (reels, floor cords, machines swapped, not repaired). Actual repair (e.g., re-terminating a floor cord) begins at Senior-Technician level; broken scoring machines return to the manufacturer. Precise repair scope is to be defined in the curriculum.
5. **Level maintenance.** The Commission still in discussion on requirements on what will allow an individual to maintain their level. Additional meetings required. However, logging hours is a standard that needs to be able to stored and will require approval by SEMI members.

6. **Link to rules.** Once a pool of certified technicians exists, competition rules could require a minimum number of certified technicians per event (mirroring referee requirements). A system to log practical experience and record approvals is a prerequisite and remains to be built.
7. **Awareness / social media.** A controlled, FIE-approved social-media / awareness effort was discussed to explain SEMI's work and support recruitment and education (e.g., short safety-equipment videos ahead of junior/cadet events). Recorded as a proposal requiring FIE approval. Z. Saleem to create a communication strategy draft to proposal, including possible social media.

## Administrative Support, Budget, and Implementation Capacity

1. **Permanent FIE-Office capacity.** The Commission concluded that with the expanding coding, invoicing, label fulfilment, sampling, storage and logistics workload may require some additional support from the FIE Office. COMEX offered administrative support to facilitate the Commission's work (potentially shared across commissions). In the meantime, SEMI will create specific taskforce teams to help document needed processes.
2. **Funding confirmed.** COMEX confirmed that funding is available and the budget approved, drawing on manufacturer fees (annual and per-product), and directed the Commission not to treat budget as an obstacle. Funds are earmarked for independent laboratory testing, equipment sampling and purchasing, testing machines, and expanded delegate travel to World Cups and Grand Prix events (not only World Championships). COMEX also emphasized that responsibility for safety-critical decisions ultimately rests with COMEX/FIE governance.
3. **Laboratory testing programme.** An ongoing programme to buy equipment samples from different suppliers and send them to independent laboratories was confirmed, funded by manufacturer contributions, to verify compliance and safety.
4. **Strategic context.** COMEX situated the work within a broader “fit for the future” drive, noting that Olympic-sport status is no longer guaranteed and that modernizing procedures and safety is a priority; the Commission was encouraged to innovate and submit proposals for support.

## Next Steps

- Continue reviewing and finalizing any final edits in the new rules book, including drawing updates.
- Meet with Sport Director to bring concerns on establish updated working rules for SEMI involvement.
- Continue Track-and-Trace work with FIE office, creating, reviewing RFPs and document possible process.
- Complete World Cup Handbook items related to SEMI (update drawings)
- Create a communications strategy for SEMI including a potential social media platform of options. .
- Complete Technicians Academy documentation, structure and curriculum.
- Finalize work with PCM on logos and draft of potential new rule changes (for 2027-2028 season)
- Establish additional meetings starting in August (post World Championships to complete M Book and homologation tasks

## REPORT OF THE FIE ETHICS COMMITTEE

# Proposals for the 2026 Congress

# Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 100**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Articles: Chapter XII, 5 – Ethics Committee and Article 7.2.1 a)**

**Motivation:** Clarification that the Ethics Committee is entitled to lodge a complaint under the Disciplinary Code.

**5.- ETHICS COMMITTEE:**

1. The Ethics Committee is formed in order that the FIE Family shall ensure the observance of the principles and rules of the Olympic Charter and of this Code. The CEO, or her/his representative shall be the liaison with the Ethics Committee and shall provide the administrative support for the Committee.
2. The Ethics Committee shall be responsible for defining and updating a framework of ethical principles based on the principles and values enshrined in the Olympic Charter and the Code of Ethics of the IOC. Likewise, it will issue reports, advice or recommendations to the members of the FIE Family on all matters relating to the ethical permissiveness of any planned action in accordance with the provisions of this Code.
3. Any alleged violation of this Code or an ~~Ethical~~ Ethics Committee advice shall be grounds for the Ethics Committee itself to lodge ~~lodging~~ a complaint under the Disciplinary Code. The Ethics Committee will be entitled to report violations of this Code (Acting as prosecutor/Fiscal Ministry before the Disciplinary Tribunal).
4. Each year, the Ethics Committee will issue a report to the Executive Committee of the FIE relating to the application of this code, noting any advice given, and to any violation of the Ethic Code. The Ethics Committee may set out the goals and recommendations for the implementation of the present Code.
5. The Ethics Committee will issue its advice, reports, resolutions or recommendations, by a majority of its neutral members, based on the queries and enquiries presented, after having heard all parties concerned. The communication of the advice of potential conflicts of interest, may be delegated to one or more of its members.

7.2.1 *The complaint*

a) Author of the complaint

Any person, individual or entity, whether or not they are a licensee of the FIE, if they are personally the victim of one of the offences enumerated above in Article 7.1.7 can present a complaint, in one of the FIE working languages, before the Disciplinary Tribunal. The Ethics Committee can present a complaint before the disciplinary Tribunal for any alleged violation of the Ethics Code or an Ethics Committee advice.

**Opinion of the Ethics Committee:** In favour

**Proposal 101**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: Chapter XII - New Appendix 2 - FIE ETHICS CODE: CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM**

**Motivation:** As an elected or appointed member, commitment is the cornerstone of the trust placed in our institutions by the fencing community. Disclosure is a mutual protection measure: it safeguards the integrity of decision-making processes while shielding individuals from any challenge to their integrity. This form ensures that the best interests of international fencing always prevail over any personal or national considerations.

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

## International Fencing Federation

### 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- **Full Name**: _____
- **National Federation (NF)**: _____
- **Current Position**: ☐ Referee | ☐ Directoire Technique | ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member
- **Candidate to a position as**: ☐ Commission/Council/Committee Member | ☐ Executive Committee Member

### 2. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

*Please check and provide details for any situation that may create an actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest:*

- ☐ **Professional & Financial Interests**: any construal relationship, including but not limited to employment, partnership, consultancy, or ownership in companies manufacturing/distributing/selling fencing equipment or related services.
- ☐ **Coaching & Training Ties**: Current or recent (past 24 months) coaching of athletes competing on the international circuit.
- ☐ **Club & Academy Affiliations**: Official roles or membership in fencing clubs, associations or other entities.
- ☐ **Family & Close Relationships**: Relatives who are active fencers, national coaches, referees or competition officials.
- *Details for any of the above*: _____

### 3. SPECIFIC IMPARTIALITY & RECUSAL COMMITMENT

I agree to **recuse myself** from any decision-making process, voting, or officiating duties involving:

1. **National Federation Ties**: Any matter, competition bid, disciplinary case, or funding specifically related to my own **National Federation**.

2. **Athletes & Teams**: Any bout involving fencers or national teams from my country of affiliation and from my other country or countries of nationality.
3. **Club & Academy Affiliations**: Fencers belonging to a club or a national team with which I am or have been affiliated (last 24 months) or in which I have or have had (last 24 months) professional and/or financial interests.
4. **Personal Relationships**: Individuals with whom I have a family or personal tie.

**4. CONFIDENTIALITY & NON-DISCLOSURE (NDA)**

- I undertake to maintain the **strictest confidentiality** regarding all non-public information, technical data, and internal deliberations accessed during my mandate.
- I shall not use such information for personal gain or for the benefit of any third party (including my National Federation or Club).
- This obligation remains in effect even after the termination of my functions.

**5. DATA PROTECTION & RETENTION (GDPR)**

- **Purpose**: Ensuring the integrity and neutrality of international fencing.
- **Retention**: Duration of mandate plus **5 years** of archival storage.

**6. DECLARATION**

I certify that this information is true and complete. I will update it immediately if any new conflict or potential conflict of interest arises during my mandate.

**Date**: ____ / ____ / 202_ | **Signature**: _____

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**7.Failure to disclose**

Failure to disclose a conflict of interest, or providing incomplete or misleading information, may constitute a breach of the FIE's ethical and governance standards.

Depending on the severity of the breach, consequences may include sanctions which shall be applied in accordance with the applicable statutes, disciplinary code, and ethics regulations of the FIE.

**8. INTERNAL USE ONLY (VETTING PANEL)**

- **Review Date**: ____ / ____ / 202_
- **Assessment**:
    - ☐ No conflict identified.
    - ☐ Potential conflict identified – Mitigation plan required.
    - ☐ Material conflict identified – Recusal mandatory for specific matters.
- **Comments / Mitigation Measures**:

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**Reviewer Signature**: _____

**Opinion of the Ethics Committee:** In favour

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**Proposal 59**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.2**

**Motivation:** The educational requirements should be precise. Redrafting of this article.

A candidate for the Ethics Committee must have the educational requirements (University law degree or University degree in ethics) or be practicing as a lawyer, judge, mediator, arbitrator or Ethics Officer or equivalent ~~or have a university degree in ethics or have experience in serving as a member of an ethics committee or equivalent~~.

**Opinion of the Ethics Committee:** In favour with modification in yellow

A candidate for the Ethics Committee must have the educational requirements (University law degree or University degree in ethics or in philosophy or social sciences) or be practicing as a lawyer, judge, mediator, arbitrator or Ethics Officer or equivalent. ~~or have a university degree in ethics or have experience in serving as a member of an ethics committee or equivalent~~.

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**Proposal 63**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.4**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.4.4 If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least ~~3~~ 4 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the ~~3~~ 4 candidates of the under- represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the ~~7~~ 6 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.
If no candidate of one of the genders has been nominated, the 10 candidates ~~of different nationalities~~ of the other gender with the greatest number of votes are elected.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates of either gender, that gender will be represented by the number of candidates of such gender put forward who have received at least one vote and the remainder of the Commission will consist of the candidates of the other gender who have obtained the most votes.

If there are fewer than 10 candidates for a Commission then the Commission will consist of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission then the members of the Commission whose term had just ended shall hold over for the following year until new candidates can be presented and an election is held for that Commission at the following Congress.

**Opinion of the Ethics Committee:** Not in favour

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# REPORT OF THE FIE COACHES COUNCIL

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 67**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.7.6**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.7.6 Candidacies permitting, there must be at least ~~30%~~ 40% representation of each gender on each of the Councils and Committees.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** No, but ~~c~~oaching council is working on enreasing the mummer of women coaches in the word. Only tow women coaches were proposed for the coaching council in 2024.

## REPORT OF THE FIE COACHES COUNCIL

# Proposals for the 2026 Congress

# Modifications of the Organisation Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 1**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.3**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not included into the FIE rankings because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word “cadet” in article o.3.

**o.3** These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the ‘Official Competitions of the FIE’, viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, cadet, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- International competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 2**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles: o.3, o.42, o.55, o.60, o.89, o.108**

**Motivation :** Introduction to Zonal Cadet as part of FIE Competition

**o.3** These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the 'Official Competitions of the FIE', viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, cadet, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- International competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes.

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships and the Cadet and Junior Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, ~~Cadet circuit,~~ etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the **Cadet and** Junior Zonal Championships comprises ~~6~~ **12** individual events, and 6 team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, **Cadet** and Junior Individual Zone Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team Zone Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.55**

The **forms** must be sent to all federations at the same time as the official invitation. The federations must indicate their **intention to participate** three months before the beginning of the Championships.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior, Cadet and Junior Championships***

***Zone Championship***

**o.60**

For **Cadet,** junior and senior Individual Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team Zone Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

**o.108**

**1 Principles**

**c) The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships **and Zonal Championships.**

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 6**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Articles o.41, o.99, t.41, t.124**

**Motivation:** We considered how to make team matches shorter and more dynamic, with increased suspense through greater individual responsibility for each fencer. The objective is to create a format that is more attractive for television and digital broadcasting, easier to understand for spectators, and overall more dynamic and spectacular in presentation.

The proposal consists of modifying the current team competition format by introducing a set-based system, according to the following rules:

Each match would be contested as a best-of-three sets (two sets required to win).

Each set would be fenced to 15 touches using the relay format (5–10–15).

The team that wins two sets wins the match.

If each team wins one set, a decisive third set would be fenced to 15 touches.

Each set would have a time limit of 6 minutes (3 periods of 3 minutes).

Each team would consist of three fencers, with one optional substitute.

Each set would be fenced independently, with the score reset to 0–0 at the start of each set.

Touches would not carry over from one set to another.

Each coach would have one 30-second time-out available per match.

**o.41**

**2 Principles**

c) The matches proceed according to the **2 winning sets** ~~**team-relay**~~ **formula**, as provided for in Article o.99 of these Rules.

**o.99**

The **formula** for the competition is as follows.

**1** The **relay formula 2 winning sets** applies to all weapons.

**2** The three fencers of one team fence the three fencers of the opposing team (~~**9**~~ **relay bouts**). **In 2 winning sets, in case of a tie a 3rd decisive set will be fence.**

**3** The bouts of each **set** match have to be fought in the following **order**:

~~3–6 2–5~~

~~1–5 1–4~~

~~2–4 2–6~~

~~1–6 3–5~~

~~3–4~~

| 1St Set | 2nd Set | 3rd Set |
|---|---|---|
| 3–6 | 2–5 | 1–4 |
| 1–5 | 3–4 | 2–6 |
| 2–4 | 1–6 | 3–5 |

If this order is **altered**, intentionally or unintentionally, all the hits scored following the modification are annulled and the match is resumed in the correct order.

**4** **The position of each team on the match score-sheet** is decided by drawing lots. **The order of the individual fencers** is then decided by the team captains.

**5**

**d) Each team captain has one 30-second timeout that can be used during the entire match**

**t.124**

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all ~~9 relays~~ **set**) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts, at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at ~~44-44~~ 14-14 in each set.

**t.41**

**1** Each 'lap' (bout) of the relay match consists of **five hits** (5, 10, 15~~, 20, etc~~.), ~~Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5, 10, 15 etc. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted;~~ the maximum time for each bout is **3 minutes**.

**2** The first two opponents fence until one or both have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one or both* of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.
**The two opponents in the 3rd relay shoot up to 15 touches to win the set in a maximum time of 3 minutes.**

**3** If by the expiry of 3 minutes of fencing time **the intended score for the bout has not been achieved**, the next two fencers take up the score where it was left off and fence up to the maximum score intended for their bout as normal, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

**4** **The winning team** is that which first reaches **2 winning sets** ~~the maximum score of 45 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time.~~
**In case of equality, one set for each team, a decisive 3rd set will be played with 15 touches in a maximum time of 3 minutes each.**

**5** **If at the end of regulation time for the last bout of each set the scores are equal**, the match continues for a deciding hit, with a maximum time limit of one minute, fought for by the fencers of the last bout in the match. Before the fencing recommences the Referee draws lots to decide who will be the winner if scores are still equal at the end of the extra minute.

- For team Junior competition (season 2027/2028)

- For team Senior competition after LA 2028 (season 2028/2029)

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** Not in favour

Reasons:

1) The proposal will **not reduce the duration** of team matches and may even make them longer.
2) Such a major format change should **first be tested at lower-level competitions**, not at World Cups or Championships.
3) The format is **more complicated** and less understandable for athletes, coaches and spectators.
4) Resetting the score after each set **reduces the continuity, tactics and suspense** of the current relay format.
5) The bout order is unfair: the same fencer may fence the **last bout of one set and the first bout of the next**, requiring an additional **5–10 minute break** between sets and further increasing the match duration.

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**Proposal 7**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.42**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by the FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the Cadet Zonal Championships in article o.42, in order to regulate the entries to these competitions.

**ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**o.42**

1. The Zonal Championships recognised by the FIE are the Senior Zonal Championships, ~~and~~ the Junior Zonal Championships and the Cadet Zonal Championships. Other competitions may be organized by the Zonal Confederations (Veterans, U 23, Cadet circuit, etc.).

2. The program of the Senior Zonal Championships comprises twelve events, six individual and six team —men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

3. The program of the Junior and Cadet Zonal Championships comprises 6 individual Cadet events and 6 individual Junior events, and 6 Junior team events — men's foil, women's foil, men's epee, women's epee, men's sabre and women's sabre.

4. The formulae of the competitions are specified in the rules and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

5. For Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to four fencers. For Senior and Junior Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championships, at each weapon, each federation may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 8**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.56**

**Motivation:** As it is already permitted to enter additional fencers after the deadline, clarify the addition of a team after the deadline, as already in place for the Senior team World Cups.

***Entries for World Championships (all categories) and Zonal Senior ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet Championships***

**o.56**

**3 Withdrawal of a fencer or a team**

**After the cut-off date for entries, there can be no further withdrawal of a name or of a team except in any case of force majeure duly justified.**

Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalised by a **fine** (**cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines**), payable to the FIE, **except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'.**

**4 Addition of fencer(s) or a team after the deadline ~~after the cut-off date.~~**

Nevertheless, one or more fencers and/or a team may be added, up until 10.00am (**local time in the town hosting the World or Zonal Championships**) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a **penalty (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and**

**fines) per ~~fencer~~ entry added**. To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer and/or a team, together with immediate payment of the penalty.

**5 Changes of names**, only with the agreement of the FIE, can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 9**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.60**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated in FIE rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to add the word “cadet” in article o.60.

***~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship***

**o.60**

For cadet, junior and senior Individual ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter up to 4 fencers.

For junior and senior Team ~~Zone~~ Zonal Championship competitions, at each weapon, the federations may enter 1 team (consisting of three fencers with or without a reserve).

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 10**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.62**

**Motivation:** In recent years, the number of participants in Senior individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased significantly, which results in extremely long competition days and increased logistical pressure on organizers, referees, athletes and officials. The excessive duration of competitions affects the quality of the event, athlete performance conditions and the overall

efficiency of the competition schedule. It also increases organizational costs and operational complexity for host federations.

For the majority of National Federations, which typically enter between 1 and 6 athletes, the introduction of an 8-fencer limit would not restrict their participation. On the contrary, it would create a more balanced competition environment.

**o.62**

**1** For **Grand Prix competitions and Senior Individual World Cup competitions**, ~~Cadet, Junior and Senior, Senior and Junior,~~ at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of ~~12~~ 8 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**2** ~~For **Individual World Cup competitions outside Europe**, the organising country may enter up to 30 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.~~ For **Cadet and Junior Individual World Cup competitions**, at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of 12 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

**Opinion of The Coaches Council:** Not in favour

Reasons:

1) Reducing the maximum number of entries from 12 to 8 **does not solve the real scheduling problem**, as it mainly affects the first day of competition, which is generally not the longest or most difficult day.
2) The proposal would unnecessarily **limit opportunities for developing athletes**, particularly juniors and Under-23 fencers from leading fencing nations, to gain valuable international experience.
3) The Coaches Council **supports the second part of the proposal** regarding the entry limits for the organising country at competitions held outside Europe.

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**Proposal 11**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.83, o.85, o.86, o.87**

**Motivation:** In recent years, participation in individual World Cup and Grand Prix competitions has increased considerably, with some events reaching over 300 athletes. Many of the athletes ask for

equal conditions in the individual competition. In order to have equal conditions in senior FIE competitions, all the participants should start compete from the pools. After the pools all the qualifies athletes will fence the direct elimination table up to T64 in the first day. No top 16 world ranking exempte, no top 16 after the pools will be qualify direct to the T64. In the second day the rest of T64 will be fence. So all Senior FIE events will use one unifies formula.

All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

## *C. MIXED FORMULA A. SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, SENIOR WORLD CUPS AND GRAND PRIX*

### Mixed formula A

**o.83**

One qualifying round of pools, a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table~~, a main direct elimination table~~ of ~~64~~ fencers to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Senior World Championships as well as for the Senior World Cup competitions and Grand Prix competitions.

**o.85**

1 The competition consists of two phases, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.

~~2 The 16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification are exempt from the preliminary phase.~~

~~3~~ 2 Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.

~~4 In the case of a tie in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.~~

**o.86**

1 For World Cups ~~T~~the preliminary phase consists of one round of pools, from which 25% ~~20%–30%~~ of the participants in the pools are eliminated, based on the indices of all participants ~~competing in them~~, and a ~~preliminary~~ direct elimination table until 64 fencers remain. For World Championship and Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

~~2 After the round of pools, the 16 fencers ranked highest on the general index (cf o.73) are exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table. Should there be a tie between two or more fencers for the~~

~~16th place, there will be a barrage for 5 hits to decide who is ranked 16th. Following the barrage, the ranking of the fencers is determined according to V, HS-HR, HS.~~

~~3~~ 2 The remainder of the fencers qualifying from the pools will make up a ~~preliminary integral~~ direct elimination table. This will be based on the indices of the fencers in all the pools (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots). This table, be it complete or incomplete, will be fenced until only 64 ~~32~~ fencers remain.

**o.87**

1 The main phase consists of a~~n~~ 64 integral direct elimination table, which is fenced on four pistes, one quarter of the table per piste. The first round of the table of 64 may, however, if required for the organisation of the competition, be fenced on eight pistes. Grand Prix competitions must be fenced either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video refereeing.

~~2 The seeded fencers exempted from the preliminary phase occupy places 1–16 in this table, drawing lots in pairs in the order of their official FIE classification.~~

~~3 Should one of the 16 exempted fencers who had been entered not present himself to fence (cf. o.85), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.~~

~~4 The 16 fencers who have the highest indices after the round of pools and who are thus exempt from the preliminary direct elimination table will take places 17–32, classified in the order of their indices (in the case of a tie on indices, the fencers will be separated by drawing lots).~~

~~5 The 32 fencers qualifying from the~~ preliminary direct elimination table will ~~occupy places 33–64, classified according to their indices after the round of pools.~~

~~6 The drawing of lots and allocation of the qualified fencers in the main table (T64) shall be made at the end of the preliminary table in the presence of the Directoire Technique President.~~

**Opinion of The Coaches Council:** Not in favour

Reasons:

1) The proposal **adds unnecessary complexity** to the competition format without providing any significant benefit.
2) The current system is well established and does not require such extensive changes.
3) The Coaches Council supports **a fixed elimination rate of 25% after the round of pools** for all Senior World Cups, Grand Prix and World Championships to ensure consistency across competitions.

**Proposal 12**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.89**

**Motivation:** Though the cadet zonal championships are organised by the same organizer, jointly with the junior zonal championships, at the same period and place, with the same officials and referees, and sometimes with the same fencers, the cadet zonal championships are not regulated by FIE' rules because they are not listed below. It is therefore proposed to list all zonals in article below.

***D. MIXED FORMULA B – JUNIOR AND CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, CADET WORLD CUPS, JUNIOR WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.***

**Mixed Formula B**

**o.89**

**One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.**

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships. ~~The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.~~

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 13**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.92**

**Motivation:** All the FIE competition should have a fixed percentage of eliminated fencers after the round of pools.

**o.92**

The competition consists of **one round of pools**, in which **all the fencers present take part** and an integral direct elimination table. For Cadet and Junior World Cups and Cadet, Junior and Senior Zonal Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be

25%. For Cadet and Junior World Championships competitions, the number of fencers eliminated on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour with amendment

Recommendation:

The Coaches Council recommends a uniform elimination rate of 25% after the round of pools for all FIE competitions, including Cadet, Junior and Senior events, to ensure consistency, simplicity and fairness across all competition formats.

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**Proposal 14**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.98, o.100**

**Motivation:** The Senior and Junior World Cups bring together a very large number of participants. With the current format, the competition has become increasingly difficult to manage due to the growing number of registered athletes. No other sport offers such a long competition format in a single day.

This situation results in significant physical and mental fatigue for the athletes, increased pressure on coaches and officials, an excessive workload for event organizers, and considerable fatigue for referees, whose concentration must remain at the highest level throughout the entire event.

Furthermore, such an extended format greatly reduces media appeal. No media outlet, journalist, photographer, or television broadcaster can reasonably cover a continuous competition lasting 9 to 12 hours. This limits international visibility and hinders the development of the discipline.

For all these reasons, we propose that the Senior and Junior World Cups adopt a full direct elimination format.

This system would allow for a significant reduction in the overall duration of the competition, better clarity for the public and the media, increased sporting intensity in every round, more efficient and professional organization, and improved working conditions for referees and officials.

This reform would make the competition more dynamic, more attractive, and better aligned with modern international sporting standards.

***TEAM COMPETITIONS***

***A. JUNIOR, SENIOR ~~AND JUNIOR~~ WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS***

**o.98**

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex b).

**2** At the Junior, ~~and~~ Senior World Championships **and Zonal Championships** the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

**3** **At the Junior ,Senior, ~~and~~ ~~Junior~~ World Championships and Zonal Championships,** all places in the table up to 16th place are fought for. From 17th place onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**o.100**

~~Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, Senior World Championships and Zonal Championships respectively.~~

**1** The competition is run by **integral direct elimination** with a direct elimination table which may be incomplete (see table Annex A).

**2** At the Junior and Senior World Cup the teams occupy the places in the table according to the **most recent official team ranking of the FIE**. The teams that are not classified occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.

3 **At the Junior and Senior World Cup, the competition format is direct elimination** onwards teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** STRONGLY AGANST THE PROPOSAL

1) This proposal would seriously harm the development of fencing, particularly in developing and smaller fencing nations.
2) Many teams would travel long distances and at considerable expense to fence only one match, often against a top-ranked fencer, discouraging participation.
3) The current Senior format provides more competition opportunities and valuable international experience for all fencers.

**Recommendation:**

Rather than changing the Senior format, the Coaches Council recommends **aligning the Cadet and Junior team competition formats with the current Senior system**, creating a single, consistent competition format across all age categories.

**Proposal 15**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.105**

**Motivation:** Cadet Zonal championships should follow the same rule as junior zonal championships.

**Video Refereeing**

**o.105**

Video-refereeing is compulsory at all three weapons at Grand Prix, Senior World Cup individual and team competitions, the Junior and Cadet World Championships, the World Championships and Olympic Games, cadet, junior and senior Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games. It is optional at the Veteran World Championships.

**1** For World Cup individual, Grand Prix competitions, senior Zonal ~~Zone~~ Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on 4 pistes or 8 pistes, and in any case, **from the table of 64.**

| Competitions | Individual event VIDEO, from | Team event VIDEO, from | Number of pistes equipped with VIDEO | Teams and ranking matches |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Senior World Cup | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior World Cup | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |
| Grand-Prix | T 64 | ---------- | 4 or 8 | ---------- |
| Senior World Championships | T 64 | T16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Junior/Cadet World Championships | T 32 | T 16 (juniors) | 8 | T 1-8 |
| Senior Zonal Championship | T 64 | T 16 | 4 or 8 | T 1-8 |
| Cadet and Junior Zonal Championship | ~~not mandatory~~ T16 | ~~not mandatory~~ T 16 (juniors) | ~~not mandatory~~ 4 or 8 | ~~not mandatory~~ T 1-8 |
| Veteran World Championships | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory | not mandatory |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Zonal qualifying events for the Olympic Games | Pools | ----------<br>- | All pistes | ---------- |
| Olympic Games | Mandatory for all phases of the Olympic competition | | | |

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour with amendment

**Recommendation:**

The Coaches Council supports extending compulsory video refereeing to **Cadet Zonal Championships** to align with the Junior Zonal Championships.

However, for effective implementation, **a minimum of eight video-equipped pistes with qualified video referees should be mandatory** at these competitions. This will ensure consistency, fairness and efficient operation of the event.

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**Proposal 16**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: o.108**

**Motivation:** Related to the addition of Cadet Zonal Championships.

**Official FIE individual ranking**

**o.108 1**

**1 Principles**

**c) The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships and the Zonal Championships

**o.108 2**

**2 Scale of points**

**c)** Points obtained in ~~a~~ **Grand Prix** and ~~a~~ individual Zonal Championships ~~competition~~ of the FIE (cadet, junior and senior) are multiplied by a factor of 1.5.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 18**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.119**

**(Urgent decision) For Team competition Veterans World Championship 2026 for to use the new formula in next Veterans World Championship in Tbilisi 2026**

**o.119**

1 Participation
Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon.

2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is ~~45 hits relay~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** Not in favour

**Proposals for the 2026 Congress**

**Modifications of the Technical Rules**

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 20**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.9.1**

**Motivation:** In definition of attack is only explanation concerning movement of the arm, but nothing about moving forward the feet, extending arm on the spot or with step back could be considered as an attack according to the existing t.9.1.

**t.9.1**

The **attack** is the initial offensive action ~~made~~ of non-stop movement forward, started by extending the arm and continuously threatening the opponent's target, preceding the launching of the lunge or fleche (cf. t.83, t.84, t.85 and t.101ss).

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** Not in favour

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**Proposal 21**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.22, t.170 1.13)**

**Motivation:** To add clarity and consistency for the commonly given penalty of "false starts"

The penalty for the "false start" it is not explicated stated in the rulebook. It is most consistently given in sabre but is less consistently given in foil and epee. By explicitly stating this as a rule, ambiguity and inconsistency is removed, and it will be more evenly applied and easily understood and expected by all.

**t.22**

**12.** The fencers must come on guard correctly and remain completely still until the command 'Play!' is given by the Referee. **A fencer who does not remain still or who initiates an action before the command "Play" commits an offense in the 1st group and will be penalized in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.**

**t.170**

1st group

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.13 | Refusal to obey the Referee, **False Start** | t.108, t.112, **t.22.12** | Yellow | Red | Red |

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 22**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.27**

**Motivation:** To make clear that hit before "Halt!" should be awarded.

**t.27**

2 It is forbidden to turn one's back on one's opponent during the bout. Should such an offence occur, the Referee will penalise the fencer at fault as specified in articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled, however, the hit of the opponent before the Referee called 'Halt!' is valid.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 23**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.34**

**Motivation:** To keep the same terminology like in t.22.10

**t.34**

Should a competitor cross the rear limit of the piste completely- i.e. with both feet — a technical hit will be ~~scored~~ awarded against him.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 24**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.35, t.170 2.7)**

**Motivation:** As nowadays leaving the piste to avoid being hit has become a tactic and it should be penalised with "Red Card".

**t.35**

3 A competitor who crosses **intentionally** one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with **one or** both feet — e.g. when making a flèche **or to stop his opponent's attack** — to avoid being hit will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158 -~~162, t.165~~, **t. 166**, t.170, for the offences of the ~~1st~~ 2nd group. Any hit made by the offending fencer is annulled.

**t.170**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2.7 | Crossing lateral boundary of the piste to avoid being hit **(*)** | **t.35.3** | Red | Red | Red |

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour, but different wording -

A competitor who crosses intentionally one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with one or both feet to avoid being hit will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158 -162, t.165, t. 166, t.170, for the offences of the 2nd group. Any hit made by the offending fencer is annulled.

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**Proposal 25**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.39**

**Motivation:** There is no requirements to name a person's name before the bout, but the person on the piste should be accredited.

**t.39**

2 During the one-minute rests, an accredited person ~~named before the bout~~, may have access to the fencer.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 26**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.62**

**Motivation:** To avoid unnecessary repetitions and have the regulations in case of the technical problems if a video is not available. Cf. articles t.62.2, t.61.1-2, t.62.3, t.62.4.

**t.62**

1 There shall only be a maximum of 4 repetitions of the action. The referee can choose to review the action in real time or in slow motion, at any speed he wishes.

2 At all weapons and at any time, the referee on her/his own initiative may consult his monitor before making a decision.

3 If the fencers' scores are equal at the end of the match, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing before even giving his decision.

4 The video-referee may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

5 Once the referee, together with the video-referee, has analysed the action, ~~whether it is:~~
~~at the referee's initiative~~
~~at the request of the athlete~~
~~in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit~~
~~at the video-referee's request~~

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.

6 Each time the referee consults the video, ~~whether on his own initiative, following an appeal or at the suggestion of the video-referee~~, the opinions of the referee and the video-referee must be recorded on the match sheet.

7 In case of technical problems if a video is not available:

- once the referee has made a decision on the piste, that decision cannot be changed
- if no decision has been made, the Referee abstains
- it is up to the referee to make the final decision regarding a decisive hit

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 27**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.64**

**Motivation:** The place inside the Piste Enclosure is for the referees working zone and must be free of foreign objects.

**t.64**

7. No recording devices placed inside the Piste Enclosure.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour, but with addition, during table of 64.

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**Proposal 28**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.71**

**Motivation:** To correct penalties for offences with clothing and equipment which does not conform with the Rules. For example, missing a control mark is a 2nd group, missing logo is elimination from the competition and not correct size is a 1st group of penalties as well as to make clear what should happen after 5 minutes if a fencer has no regular equipment.

**t.71**

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only one regulation weapon (cf. t.114, 115); or
- with only one regulation bodywire; or
- with only one regulation mask wire, or
- with a weapon or a bodywire which does not work, or which does not conform with the Rules; or
- without his protective under-plastron (cf. t.64.5); or
- with a conductive jacket which does not fully cover the valid target; or
- with a mask whose 2nd security device is not securely fixed to the body of the mask; or
- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.) ;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in ~~Articles t.158-162, t.165,~~ t.170~~, for the offences of the 1st group~~ and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes; otherwise, the fencer will be excluded from the competition.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** Not in favour

Fencer shall not be excluded from the competition solely because replacement equipment cannot reasonably be obtained at the venue, provided that the equipment deficiency does not compromise safety. Where the Organiser does not provide access to an equipment supplier or repair service, the fencer shall be permitted to continue the competition with the available equipment after the appropriate penalty has been applied, except in cases involving safety requirements.

Where replacement clothing is obtained during the competition and the required name or other markings cannot immediately be applied, the fencer shall be permitted to compete in that clothing until the end of the current round. The required markings must be added before the next round of the competition. If no reasonable facility exists at the venue to apply such markings, the Referee shall allow the fencer to continue without them.

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**Proposal 30**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.72**

**Motivation:** The fencer should not be penalized if the condition of the equipment changed during the bout in case a fencer does not notice this because he was focused on the next action.

**t.72**

When during a bout an irregularity is found in the equipment which could be caused by conditions **during** the bout:

Examples:

- conductive jacket with holes in which hits are registered as non-valid,
- weapon or bodywire no longer functioning,
- pressure of the spring in the point too weak,
- the travel in the point no longer regulation,
- a curve of the blade exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4)
- presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device.

the Referee will apply neither warning nor penalty and any hit scored with the equipment which has become defective will be awarded.

~~However, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose weapon, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, has a curve of the blade which exceeds that permitted (cf. m.8.6, m.16.2, m.23.4) commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170.~~

~~Similarly, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose mask, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device (cf.~~

~~m.25.7.f), commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with articles t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170.~~

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** Not in favour

The wording of this proposal is not sufficiently clear. We recommend requesting clarification from the Rules Committee before considering its adoption.

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**Proposal 32**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.124**

**Motivation:** The current P-card rule has not had a positive effect on fencers' behavior on the piste, particularly in épée. One minute is too long to wait before sanctioning passivity with a P-card, and it does not encourage fencers to be more offensive or to engage more actively in the bout.

In other combat sports, such as judo, if an athlete refuses to engage for 20 to 30 seconds, they are penalized with a yellow card. This rule creates a more dynamic rhythm and forces competitors to take initiative.

Therefore, reducing the passivity time to 30 seconds could encourage fencers to adopt a more offensive attitude and engage more quickly in the bout**. The P-card should be use starting with the pools.**

**(Non-combativity)**

**t.124**

**Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)**

There is unwillingness to fight when there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of unwillingness to fight, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!' as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

**1 Individual events ~~– Direct elimination~~**

~~P-yellow cards and~~ P-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1~~.c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P ~~-yellow-~~**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both fencers with~~ a P~~-red~~ **black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

ii) If the scores of the two fencers are not equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower score with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

**2 Team events**

~~P-yellow ,~~ P-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously~~, starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2.~~.c~~ **b**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P~~-yellow~~-**red** card.

b) When, for the second time, there is ~~one minute~~ **30 Seconds** of unwillingness to fight, ~~the Referee sanctions both teams with~~ a P-~~red~~ **Black** card **is awarded as follows:**

i) If the scores for the two teams are equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, with a P-Black card. The team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

ii) If the scores for the two teams are not equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-Black card. The team with the higher score wins the match.

**3 In both individual and team competitions**

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning),~~ P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all 9 relays) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow,~~ red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 4-4 in pool bouts or at 14-14 in direct elimination bouts or in team matches at 44-44.

b) In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.

c) In both individual and team competitions, the period/relay continues after the awarding of a ~~P-yellow or~~ P-Red card.

d) The ~~minute~~ **30 Seconds** starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled, each penalty hit and at the beginning of each period or relay.

e) The referee must record these ~~P-yellow,~~ P-red and P-black cards separately on the score sheet. The sanctions awarded for unwillingness to fight are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.

f) In both individual and team competitions, if, at the end of the regulation time, there is equality of scores, article t.124 does not apply and articles t.40.3 and t.41.5 will apply.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** Not in favour

**Proposal 33**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.127**

**Motivation:** Update t.127 with gender neutral language to better reflect our athletes. Gendered language that excludes female athletes can easily be updated to be inclusive

**t.127**

At the end of a bout, the Referee must bring together the two fencers, to announce clearly the score, which will be transmitted to the Directoire Technique. He must say clearly: '~~Mister~~ Fencer X won against ~~Mister~~ Fencer Y with the following score…'

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

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**Proposal 34**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.128**

**Motivation:** To stop giving hits away that has been common action in recent seasons and to avoid the awarding a black card for it as required in t.128 but penalize with a less serious penalty.

**Personal effort**

**t.128**

Competitors must fence to their utmost ability in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits or seeking to be favoured by being given hits by anyone ~~(cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170)~~. ~~Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group.~~

1 A hit giving away to the opponent should not be awarded and the fencer who do so should be penalised for the offences of the 1st group (cf. t.165, t.170);

2 Profit from a fraudulent agreement with his opponent to change a result of the bout or team match will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group (cf. t.169, t.170).

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

**Proposal 35**

**Presented by: Refereeing Commission**

**Article: t.132**

**Motivation:** During the team match nobody should enter the Piste Enclosure as well as to leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission.

**t.132**

2 During team competitions, no one has the right to enter the Piste Enclosure or leave the Team Enclosure without the Referee's permission. In the case of such an offence, the Referee will penalise the offending team as provided for in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170. A warning imposed on a team is valid for the complete team match. Should a fencer, within the same match, commit another offence from the First Group, the Referee will penalise him on each occasion with a Red Card.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** Not in favour

**Explanation:** During a team match, the coach may need to provide tactical instructions to the next fencer before they enter the piste, warm up or prepare a substitute fencer, assist a fencer with weapon or equipment adjustments, or allow the next fencer to warm up before their bout. Restricting all team members and coaches to remaining seated inside the Team Enclosure throughout the match is impractical and would negatively affect the quality of coaching and competition.

Such a restriction is not common practice in team sports and serves no clear sporting or safety purpose. The Referee already has sufficient authority to control the competition area and deal with any behaviour that interferes with the orderly conduct of the match.

**Additional consideration:** The proposal would also have a negative impact on television coverage and the presentation of the sport. Modern sports broadcasting aims to show the interaction between coaches and athletes, tactical discussions, emotional reactions, and the preparation of the next competitor. These moments help viewers understand the strategy of the match and create greater engagement. Requiring coaches and team members to remain seated in the Team Enclosure throughout the match would reduce these valuable visual elements and make the broadcast less dynamic and less appealing to spectators.

**Proposal 29**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: t.71**

**Motivation:** To delete the explanation in the brackets in article t.71 because it creates confusion in the interpretation of the rules

**t.71**

If a fencer appears on the piste:

.....

- with clothing which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.);

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes.

**Opinion of the Coaches Council:** In favour

# FIE COACHING COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**DATE: 27-28 JUNE 2026**

**PLACE: SOFIA, BULGARIA**

**TIME: 9:30 – 16:30**

### Attendance register

**Present (8):**

- Dr. Guennadi Tychler (RSA) - President of the Coaches Council
- Haibin Wang (CHN) - Representative of the Executive Committee in the Coaches Council
- Yusuke Aoki (JPN)
- Zahra Gamir (ALG)
- Dmitriy Glotov (RUS)
- Woo Lee Han (KOR)
- Sheng Lei (CHN)
- Gregory Massialas (USA)

**Apologies:** Natalia Conrad (UKR)

**Absent:** Gabor Gardos (HUN); Stephane Marcelin (FRA)

### 1. Opening and Objectives

The FIE Coaching Council met in Sofia on 27 and 28 June 2026. The Council reviewed current matters concerning coaches, competition organisation, proposed modifications to FIE rules, development of fencing, and the professional recognition of coaches. During the two-day meeting, the Council also met with representatives of the FIE Rules Committee.

### 2. Proposals for the 2026 FIE Congress

The Council reviewed the proposed modifications to the FIE Organisation and Technical Rules and formulated the official opinions of the Coaching Council.

The Council supported a number of proposals concerning the formal inclusion of Cadet Zonal Championships within the relevant FIE regulations.

The Council supported the principle of a consistent percentage of fencers eliminated after the pool round and recommended a uniform elimination rate of 25% for FIE competitions, including Cadet, Junior and Senior events.

The Council did not support the proposed new team competition format based on two winning sets. The Council considered that the proposed format would not necessarily reduce the duration of team matches and could make them longer; such a significant change should first be properly tested at lower-level competitions; the format would be more complicated for fencers, coaches and spectators; resetting the score after each set would reduce the tactical continuity and suspense of the present relay system; and the proposed bout order could create additional delays between sets.

The Council also opposed reducing the maximum number of Senior World Cup and Grand Prix entries per federation from 12 to 8. It was considered that this would restrict opportunities for developing athletes, particularly Junior and U23 fencers, without resolving the main scheduling problems of major competitions. The Council supported the part of the proposal concerning entry limits for organising countries at competitions held outside Europe.

The Council did not support major changes to the existing Senior individual competition formula and recommended maintaining a clear and consistent system, including a fixed percentage of elimination following the pools.

The Council strongly opposed proposals that could result in individuals and teams travelling considerable distances and incurring significant costs in order to fence only one bout or match replacing the pool system with straight DE. The Council recommended instead that Cadet and Junior team formats should, where appropriate, be aligned with the established Senior system in order to provide greater competitive opportunities and consistency between age categories.

The detailed Coaching Council opinions and recommendations were incorporated into the document prepared for the 2026 FIE Congress - Modifications of the Organisation and Technical Rules.

## 3. Competition Hall Organisation and Access for Coaches

The Council discussed the organisation of preliminary pool rounds at FIE competitions and, in particular, difficulties experienced when coaches are positioned too far from the pistes.

The Council agreed that competition-hall layouts should permit fencers to communicate with their coaches between pool bouts; coaches, teammates and spectators to observe the bouts; and clear visibility of the scoring apparatus and lights.

Where the physical layout of the competition venue does not permit coaches to remain reasonably close to the pool pistes, the Council considered that the coach or designated second of each fencer should be permitted to observe the bout from an appropriate coaches' area adjacent to the relevant pool piste.

**Decision:** A formal communication on this matter should be submitted to the FIE Executive Committee, Competition Organisers, FIE Event Managers and Technical Directorate.

## 4. International Competition Calendar and Junior Competitions

The Council considered proposals submitted for discussion by Natalia Conrad concerning the international competition calendar.

Among the matters considered were avoiding scheduling competitions in the same weapon on the same weekend when they are held at different venues; consideration of reducing the number of Grand Prix competitions; avoiding the start of the World Cup/Grand Prix season before November; the very intensive Junior international calendar; the number of Junior World Cups and the system used for calculating Junior ranking points; the additional competition load on Junior fencers who also participate in Senior competitions; and maintaining the pool round at the Junior World Championships.

Particular concern was expressed about situations in which the competition layout prevents fencers from communicating adequately with their coaches during the pool round.

These matters were identified for further consideration in discussions concerning the future FIE competition calendar and competition organisation.

## 5. Recognition of Coaches of World Championship Medalists

The Council discussed the professional recognition of coaches responsible for World Championship medal-winning athletes and teams.

The Council agreed to propose that official FIE medals also be awarded to the accredited personal coaches of medal-winning athletes and to coaches of medal-winning teams.

The Council considered that World Championship success represents the result of a long-term partnership between the athlete and coach and that appropriate recognition should therefore be given to the coach's contribution to technical, tactical, physical and psychological preparation.

**Decision:** A formal proposal should be submitted to the FIE Executive Committee requesting the introduction of official recognition for coaches of World Championship medalists, beginning with the Hong Kong 2026 FIE World Championships.

## 6. Annual FIE Coaching Awards

The Council discussed the need for greater professional recognition of outstanding fencing coaches and agreed to propose the establishment of Annual FIE Coaching Awards.

The proposed awards would recognise coaching achievement in each Olympic weapon category: Men's Foil, Women's Foil, Men's Epee, Women's Epee, Men's Sabre and Women's Sabre. The proposal discussed Gold, Silver and Bronze Coach Awards for coaching achievements.

The proposal also included a special FIE Coaching Excellence Award for the Development of Fencing Worldwide, recognising an individual coach whose long-term contribution has had a significant international impact through fencing development, coach education, grassroots initiatives, international cooperation, athlete development or promotion of the sport.

It was proposed that nominations should be reviewed by the Coaching Council according to criteria approved by the FIE, with the final recipients confirmed by the Executive Committee.

**Decision:** Submit the proposal for establishment of the Annual FIE Coaching Awards to the FIE Executive Committee.

## 7. Foil - Proposed Elimination of White Lights

Maestro Greg Massialas, member of the FIE Coaching Council, presented a report concerning the proposed elimination of white lights in foil and the tests conducted in Rio and Shanghai.

The Council was informed that the Rio test had significant limitations and was not considered sufficiently representative. A subsequent test in Shanghai included an enlarged valid target area incorporating the fencing arm down to the elbow and the mask. Although the Shanghai test provided better conditions, it was considered that further testing with elite international fencers who had sufficient time to practise under the proposed conditions was necessary.

A further test involving elite fencers was planned in connection with the Hong Kong 2026 World Championships.

The report noted considerable concern within the international foil coaching community that eliminating white lights would not necessarily make foil more understandable or attractive to spectators. Alternative approaches discussed in the report included possible adjustments to fencing timing and improved presentation of fencing through professional explanation and slow-motion replay.

The Council considered that any major technical modification to foil should be based on comprehensive testing under realistic high-performance competition conditions before any final decision is taken.

## 8. Video Refereeing and Competition Conditions

The Council considered several proposals relating to video refereeing.

The Council supported extending compulsory video refereeing to Cadet Zonal Championships in line with Junior Zonal Championships, subject to appropriate technical and organisational conditions. The Council recommended that sufficient video-equipped pistes and qualified video referees should be available to ensure fairness and efficient competition organisation.

The Council also supported appropriate clarification of procedures concerning the use of video refereeing and the responsibilities of referees and video referees.

## 9. Coaches' Role During Team Competitions

The Council discussed proposals concerning restrictions on movement within the Team Enclosure and did not support restrictions that would require coaches and team members to remain seated throughout a team match.

It was considered that coaches must be able to provide tactical instructions, prepare the next fencer, assist with warm-up, prepare a substitute, and assist with weapon or equipment adjustments.

The Council also noted that interaction between coaches and athletes forms an important part of the presentation of team competitions to spectators and television audiences. The Council considered that existing referee authority is sufficient to control inappropriate behaviour within the competition area.

## 10. General Principle Regarding Rule Changes

During consideration of the Congress proposals, the Council emphasised that significant changes to competition formats or technical rules should not be introduced without adequate testing and evaluation.

Changes should take into account the interests of athletes and coaches, sporting fairness, development opportunities for younger and developing fencers, competition duration and organisation, clarity for spectators, television and digital presentation, and the practical experience of international coaches.

Where proposals were unclear, the Council recommended obtaining clarification from the responsible FIE Commission before taking a final position.

## 11. Conclusion

The Council reviewed the outcomes of the two-day meeting and the discussions held with the other FIE Committees and Councils. The meeting concluded with agreement to continue cooperation with the relevant FIE bodies and to submit the Council's proposals and opinions through the appropriate FIE procedures.

**Meeting closed:** 28 June 2026, Sofia, Bulgaria.

Prepared by Dr. Gennady Tyshler

**Proposal to the FIE Executive Committee**

**Subject: Establishment of Annual FIE Coaching Awards**

Dear Members of the FIE Executive Committee,

The FIE Coaching Council respectfully proposes the establishment of annual **FIE Coaching Awards** to recognize outstanding coaching achievements and contributions to the development of fencing worldwide.

## Motivation

Coaches are fundamental to the success of athletes and play a vital role in the growth of fencing at every level. While athletes are recognized through numerous FIE awards, there is currently no official annual recognition of the coaches whose expertise, leadership, and dedication contribute to these achievements.

The Coaching Council proposes the introduction of the following annual awards in each Olympic weapon category, with Gold, Silver and Bronze Coach Awards presented for coaching achievements:

- **FIE Coach of the Year – Men's Foil**
- **FIE Coach of the Year – Women's Foil**
- **FIE Coach of the Year – Men's Épée**
- **FIE Coach of the Year – Women's Épée**
- **FIE Coach of the Year – Men's Sabre**
- **FIE Coach of the Year – Women's Sabre**

In addition, the Coaching Council proposes a special distinction:

- **FIE Coaching Excellence Award for the Development of Fencing Worldwide**

This award would recognize an individual coach whose long-term contribution has had a significant international impact through the development of fencing, coach education, grassroots initiatives, international cooperation, athlete development, or the promotion of the sport across different regions of the world.

## Objectives

The introduction of these awards would:

- Recognize and celebrate excellence in coaching at the highest level of international fencing.
- Promote the importance of coaching as a key pillar of sporting success.
- Inspire coaches around the world to pursue the highest professional standards.
- Highlight the role of coaches not only in producing champions but also in developing future generations of athletes and coaches.
- Acknowledge individuals whose dedication has significantly contributed to the global growth and development of fencing.

The Coaching Council recommends that the award recipients be selected annually according to criteria established and approved by the FIE, with nominations reviewed by the Coaching Council and confirmed by the Executive Committee.

These awards would become a prestigious tradition, enhancing the visibility on the winners on FIE website and status of coaching while reinforcing the FIE's commitment to excellence, education, and the continued development of fencing worldwide.

The Coaching Council respectfully requests that the Executive Committee consider approving the establishment of these annual FIE Coaching Awards.

We thank you for your consideration and remain available to assist in developing the award criteria and selection process.

Respectfully,

**FIE Coaching Council**

**Proposal to the FIE Executive Committee**

**Subject: Recognition of Coaches of World Championship Medalists**

Dear Members of the FIE Executive Committee,

The FIE Coaching Council respectfully proposes that, beginning with Hong Kong 2026 FIE World Championships, official FIE medals also be awarded to the personal coaches of medal-winning athletes and coaches of the medal winning teams.

**Motivation**

A World Championship medal is the result of a long-term partnership between the athlete and the coach. While the athlete performs on the piste, the coach plays a decisive role throughout the entire preparation process by developing technical skills, tactical understanding, physical conditioning, psychological readiness, and competition strategy.

Recognizing coaches with an official World Championship medal would:

- Acknowledge the essential contribution of coaches to the success of elite athletes.
- Increase the prestige and professional recognition of coaching within the international fencing community.
- Encourage excellence in coaching and support the continuous development of high-performance fencing.
- Bring fencing in line with the practice in several other sports, where coaches receive official recognition for their athletes' achievements.
- Reinforce the FIE's commitment to valuing all members of the high-performance team who contribute to sporting excellence.

This initiative would require only a minimal additional investment while carrying significant symbolic value for the global coaching community and for the development of fencing worldwide.

The Coaching Council therefore respectfully requests that the Executive Committee consider approving the awarding of official FIE World Championship medals to the accredited personal coaches of medal-winning athletes.

We appreciate your consideration of this proposal and remain available to provide any additional information or support required.

Respectfully,

**FIE Coaching Council**

**Dear FIE Executive Committee, Competition Organizers, FIE Event Managers, and Members of the Technical Directorate,**

The Coaches' Council respectfully requests that the FIE Rules and Regulations be fully respected during the preliminary (pool) stages of FIE competitions.

The layout of the competition hall should allow:

- Fencers to communicate with their coaches between pool bouts.
- Coaches, teammates, and spectators to clearly observe all pool bouts.
- Clear visibility of the scoring apparatus and lights from outside the piste area.

If the competition hall layout does not permit coaches to be close to the pool pistes, then the coach or designated second of each fencer should be permitted to watch the bout from the coaches' area (coach’s box) located at the relevant pool piste.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued support of fair and effective competition conditions.

**Respectfully,**

The Coaches' Council

# REPORT OF THE FIE VETERANS COUNCIL

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 67**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.7.6**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.7.6 Candidacies permitting, there must be at least ~~30%~~ 40% representation of each gender on each of the Councils and Committees.

**Opinion of the Veterans Council:** In favour

REPORT OF THE FIE VETERANS COUNCIL

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Organisation Rules

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 18**

**Presented by: Rules Commission**

**Article: o.119**

**(Urgent decision) For Team competition Veterans World Championship 2026 for to use the new formula in next Veterans World Championship in Tbilisi 2026**

**o.119**

1 Participation
Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon.

2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is ~~45 hits relay~~ **2 winning sets** described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

**Opinion of the Veterans Council:** In favour

**FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE D'ESCRIME (FIE)**
**Veterans Council Report**
**Subject:** Consolidated Report – Council & Commission Meetings
**Reporting Period:** June–July 2026
**Submitted by:** Rita Comes, President, FIE Veterans Council

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## 1. Introduction

This report consolidates outcomes from recent meetings of the FIE Veterans Council and joint sessions with the Rules Commission, Medical Commission, Fair Play Commission, and Women's Council. The discussions focused on preparations for the 2026 Veteran World Championships in Tbilisi and the advancement of key strategic initiatives supporting veteran fencing globally. We were pleased to meet with and receive positive support from the FIE Interim President Abdelmoneim El Husseiny, FIE Secretary General Madame Gulnora Saidova, The President of the Asian Fencing Confederation H.H.Engr. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Alqasimi and many other honorable Executive Team, Commission and Council Members.. FIE Veteran Council Members that were present were our Representative of the Executive Committee in the Veterans council Madame Velichka Hristeva, President Rita Comes, Mirna Borosak, Joyce Bolanos, Marja-Liisa Tuulikki Someroja (via Zoom), Yina (Angela) Zhu, Leonardo Patti, Otmane Mahieddine, Khaled Kabish, and Mohammed Buali.  Mr Luis Filardi was unable to connect via online.

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## 2. Event Preparation – Tbilisi 2026

- The official invitation letter has been reviewed and remains in draft form pending:
    - Final FIE design and approval
    - Inclusion of the Interim President's letter
    - Corrections to language and logistics

    Note that all items were updated and the letter has been distributed to all Federations

- Website publication is contingent upon receipt of the FIE-approved welcome letter.
- Directorate of Tournament (DT) staffing proposal:
    - Leonardo (full duration)
    - Mirna (partial assignment for cost efficiency)

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## 3. Rules & Competition Matters

- Existing rule permitting cross-weapon participation in team events remains in force.
- Proposed two-fencer team format:

    - The Rules Commission presented their own proposal (best of 3-set) for the team competition format, to be applied to Junior and Veterans Team Championships
    - Since only the Rules Commission proposal has been delivered to FIE on time, their proposal will be presented at the 2026 Congress
    - If approved by the Congress, the new team format will be applied starting from the 2027 Veterans World Championships
    - The Veterans Council may present the two-fencer team format at the 2027 Congress for application in 2028.
    - Potential implementation beginning in 2027 (subject to Congress approval)
- A 3-set competition format will be tested during the 2027–2028 season.
- Communication protocol updated: all proposals must be circulated to the full Rules Commission.

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## 4. Development & Strategic Initiatives

### 4.1 Federation Survey Regarding Information on the Status of Veteran Fencing

- Distributed via FIE to all federations
- Submission deadline: August 15, 2026
- Follow-up required for incomplete responses

### 4.2 Equipment Donation Program

- Approved in principle by FIE
- Distribution model:
    - Equipment collected onsite at World Championships
    - Federations must commit to development actions (coaching, access, programming)
- Legal framework under revision (Legal Commission)

### 4.3 Sponsorship & Funding

- No independent foundation structure required
- Funds to be managed through a dedicated FIE budget line
- Support to federations to be administered via contractual grant agreements

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## 5. Medical & Athlete Welfare

- Proposal submitted to increase Medical Commission delegates at Veteran World Championships (2 to 3) due to increase of participants
- Safety proposal regarding non-elevated pistes under review

- Suggestion of a Health certification survey to be developed for participating federations regarding Veteran Fencers – The Veteran Council will review the suggested questions and hope that this is for all fencers and not just Veteran Fencers

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## 6. Inter-Commission Coordination

- Joint initiatives advanced with:
  - Women's Council (Roundtable event – October 8, Tbilisi)
  - Medical Commission (Survey review and Roundtable participation)
  - Fair Play Commission (award timeline adjustment)
- Identified need for improved communication workflows across commissions

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## 7. Pending Matters

- Confirmation of rule modifications submitted to COMEX
- Approval of DT appointments
- Establishment of veteran-specific FIE budget line
- Final legal approval of equipment donation program
- Submission of World Cup test event proposal (deadline: July 13, 2026)

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## 8. Key Risks & Considerations

- Timing of governance approvals relative to event implementation
- Alignment of administrative and organizational rules
- Sponsorship eligibility constraints
- Oversight mechanisms for federation support funding

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## 9. Next Steps

- Help support the 2026 FIE Veteran World Championships host
- Strengthen federation engagement and survey completion
- Initiate sponsorship discussions with FIE Marketing Commission
- Prepare FIE proposal for sponsorship dollars for Foundation
- Prepare for October 2026 Roundtable and 2027 program rollout

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**Respectfully submitted,**
**Rita Comes**
President, FIE Veterans Council

# REPORT OF THE WOMEN & FENCING COUNCIL

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Amendments to the Statutes

**The texts below shall come into force on 1 January 2027, unless otherwise stated.**

**Proposal 52**

**Submitted by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.3.4**

**Motivation:** To implement the new governance rules set out in the FIE Strategic Plan, which establishes 40 per cent gender parity as a key performance indicator.

4.3.4 To ensure gender equality, women and men must each represent at least ~~30%~~ 40 % of the elected members of the Executive Committee. If there are not at least ~~5~~ 6 people of each gender amongst the 15 candidates who received the most votes, the Executive Committee shall consist of the ~~5~~ 6 candidates for the Executive Committee from the under-represented gender who received the highest number of votes, and the ~~10~~ 9 candidates from the other gender who received the highest number of votes.

If there are fewer than ~~5~~ 6 candidates of either gender, that gender shall be represented by the number of candidates nominated, and the remainder of the Executive Committee shall consist of the candidates of the other gender who received the highest number of votes.

**Opinion of the Women and Fencing Council:** in favour of the proposal.

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**Proposal 63**

**Submitted by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.4.4**

**Motivation:** Mettre en œuvre les nouvelles règles de gouvernance présentées dans le Plan Stratégique de la FIE qui établissent 40 % de parité hommes-femmes comme indicateur clé de performance.

4.4.4. If, amongst the 10 candidates for a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have received the highest number of votes, there are not at least ~~3~~ 4 people of each gender, the Commission shall be composed of the ~~3~~ 4 candidates of the under-represented gender who have received the highest number of votes and the ~~7~~ 6 candidates of the other gender who have received the highest number of votes.

If no candidates of either gender have been nominated, the 10 candidates ~~of different nationalities~~ from the other gender who received the highest number of votes shall be elected.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates of either gender, that gender shall be represented by the number of candidates of that gender who have received at least one vote, and the remainder of the Commission shall consist of the candidates of the other gender who have received the highest number of votes.

If there are fewer than ~~3~~ 4 candidates for a Commission, then the Commission shall be composed of all candidates who have received at least one vote.

If there are no candidates for a Commission, then the members of the Commission whose term of office has just ended shall remain in office for the following year, until new candidates can be nominated and an election is held for that Commission at the next Congress.

**Opinion of the Women and Fencing Council:** in favour of the proposal.

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**Proposal 67**

**Submitted by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.7.6**

**Motivation:** To implement the new governance rules set out in the FIE Strategic Plan, which establishes 40 per cent gender parity as a key performance indicator.

4.7.6 Provided there are sufficient candidates, each council and committee must comprise at least ~~30 %~~ 40 % of each gender.

**Opinion of the Women and Fencing Council:** in favour of the proposal.

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| | |
|---|---|
| Date / date / fecha: | 27 - 28 June 2026 |
| Heure / time / horario: | 9h30 - 16h30 |
| Lieu / place / lugar: | Sofia, Bulgaria |

# ORDRE DU JOUR / AGENDA / ORDEN DEL DÍA

Commissions & Councils

Women & Fencing Council

| Agenda | | Saturday 27 June |
|---|---|---|
| de / from / de | à / to / a | Sujet / Topic / Asunto |
| 09:30 | 10:00 | Welcome speeches Interim President, General Secretary |
| 10:00 | 12:00 | Presentation blade metrics, FIE website |
| 12:00 | 13:00 | Introduction of agenda and develop of work for the 2 days |
| 13:00 | 14:00 | Lunch |
| 14:00 | 17:30 | Discussion of Proposals and Report on the Seminar for Women Coaches, Rio de Janeiro 2026 |
| | | End of day |

| Agenda | | Sunday 28 June |
|---|---|---|
| de / from / de | à / to / a | Sujet / Topic / Asunto |
| 09:30 | 10:00 | Welcome, Objectives / Plan for the Day |
| 10:00 | 12:00 | Review of the strategic plan and outstanding items |
| 12:00 | 13:00 | Lunch |
| 13:00 | 14:15 | Steps to be taken to advance the objectives of the strategic plan |
| 14:15 | 14:30 | Break |
| 14:30 | 16:00 | Initiatives to be developed |
| 16:00 | 16:30 | Summary / Review / Reflections |
| 16:30 | | End of day |

| | |
|---|---|
| Date / date / fecha: | 27 - 28 June 2026 |
| Heure / time / horario: | 9h30 - 16h30 |
| Lieu / place / lugar: | Sofia, Bulgaria |

# Report / Rapport / Informe

Commissions & Councils

Women & Fencing Council

| Participants / Attendees / Participantes: | Absences (indiquer si annoncée): Absent (indicate if announced): Ausencias (indicar si anunciada): |
|---|---|
| - Melissa Alvarenga<br>- Asa Anderson<br>- Georgina Usher<br>- Meirav Ofri Hershkovich<br>- Lorena Arroyo<br>- Medhat Hassabelnabi<br>- Michael Stafford<br>- Rusni Abu Hassan (COMEX)<br>- | - Mohamed Samir Hammoudi<br>- Maria Cristina Bate<br>- Lama Alfozan |

| Décisions / decisions / decisiones | Mesures / actions / medidas |
|---|---|
| 1- Proposal 52, amendment to the estatutes | a. It is agreed to support the proposal<br>b. This measure supports the council's initiatives and work objectives<br>c. The goal is to comply with the gender equity and equality initiative promoted by the IOC |
| 2- Proposal 17, Points Freeze System due to maternity Rules | a. Since a working group had been formed for this proposal, the council agreed to establish a position so that the council's representative on this working group could convey the council's viewpoint.<br>b. Recommend a study through a survey of the relevant sector to gather data that will aid in decision-making—not only to determine the ranking but also to provide safe spaces. Obtain professional input on all aspects that must be considered when a pregnant athlete decides to compete. euro 4000 for research on athlete experiences and views.<br>c. Equipment for Women – The FIE Women and Fencing Council will write to equipment manufacturers asking them to offer a wider range of chest protectors with a larger protective area that better reflect current body shapes. And for pregnant women – lower torso protectors. |
| 3- SRY testing | a. The council appointed Georgina Usher as its representative at the meeting with the medical commission, since there was an agenda item regarding the SRY test. Georgina reported that it was agreed:<br>b. A working group to be established with a representative from Medical, Legal, (Ethics?) and Women and Fencing to create a plan.<br>c. Test Failure Contingency will be required as a contingency to address the challenges faced by athletes that do not pass the test to avoid potential catastrophic (eg athlete self harm) consequences – offering mental health support and potential retraining (eg as a coach, referee).<br>d. If FIE expects to test 150-300 athletes prior to the Games entry, could be 1-3 negative tests. Around 15,000 euros.<br>e. Budget for FIE testing (could be at Tashkent depending on law and avilabaility |

| | |
|---|---|
| | of testing centre) /or grants for top 64 = euros 20,000 (based on euros 100 per head, for 3x64 athletes). |
| 4- Meeting with Veterans council | a. Establish a partnership between the Veterans Council and the Women's and Fencing Council to promote female veterans as role models. It was proposed that they work together, and Asa Anderson was designated as the liaison between the Women's and Fencing Council and the Veterans Council to develop the agenda for the Veterans Roundtable during the 2026 World Championships, where inspiring stories of female veterans will be shared. Mike Stafford will join this work with Asa<br>b. Work on campaigns to showcase inspiring stories of women veterans in collaboration with the confederations. Consult with the FIE regarding the allocation of a budget to the confederations to carry out this campaign. |
| 5- Meeting with Fair Play council | a. The Fair Play Council requested that talks on Fair Play be included in the seminar for female coaches. Everyone agreed.<br>b. Identify women in the community (coaches, athletes, referees, etc.) who are eligible to receive the Fair Play certificate.<br>c. Contribute by featuring outstanding women to develop messages for Fair Play Day, and promote those who encourage adherence to the rules and good governance.<br>Melissa Alvarenga suggested proposing to the FIE a large-scale educational campaign on good sports practices both on and off the field of competition. |
| 6- Activities to Be Carried Out by the Council | a. Continue the seminar for women coaches; by 2027, check with the FIE to organize a "follow-up" seminar for participants from 2025 and 2026.<br>Seek out women coaches to lead the training sessions. Incorporate more complementary topics into the seminar (Fair Play, etc.).<br>Conduct a survey of the female coaches who attended the seminar in 2025 and 2026 to assess the impact of their participation and to determine what activities they have carried out within their federations since attending the seminar.<br>This can be done through a follow-up survey.<br>b. Coordinate with the refereeing commission to organize refereeing seminars for women, initially holding them online and exploring the possibility of holding regional seminars (request a budget from the FIE).<br>c. Organization of "Women's Week" in conjunction with International Women's Day on March 8. We propose holding a series of webinars over the course of one week, alternating every two days (three sessions per week), so that we can cover a variety of topics and feature different panelists. Tentatively, the most suitable dates are March 8 through 12, which coincide with the observance of International Women's Day. Details of the program and budget will be sent within the next few days.<br>d. Continue participating in ASOIF leadership workshops and expand participation to include women from other commissions and councils. Learn well in advance about the programs to which the FIE may have access (Wish, Leadership, Safe Sport) in order to prepare proposals and identify candidates. |
| 7- Meeting with the FIE's Promotion and Publicity Commission and Marketing Staff | A meeting was requested with the Promotion and Publicity Committee to learn more about the requirements for developing multimedia content for the FIE's social media channels and website, following the recommendation of the Secretary General.<br>Mr. Donald Anthony Jr. and Mr. Abdulah Alsunaid shared important information to consider regarding the material we need to promote. They were joined by the Project Director, Ms. Elena Murdaca, and Mr. Patrick, the FIE's Media and Marketing Manager.<br>It was agreed to gather and provide general information and key ideas to the |

FIE's marketing department so that the agency responsible for producing articles and other materials could create them in accordance with the FIE's standards.
It was concluded that it is very important to understand how the FIE requires the material to be edited in order for it to be considered for publication. Since the council does not have experts in multimedia, promotion, and editorial content, the marketing department has been asked to provide support so that collaboration with other councils and committees can proceed in a consistent manner.

# REPORT OF THE FIE FAIR PLAY COUNCIL

## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

## Modifications of the Statutes

**The texts below are applicable on 1 January 2027, unless mentioned otherwise.**

**Proposal 67**

**Presented by: Executive Committee**

**Article: 4.7.6**

**Motivation:** To implement new Governance rules presented in the FIE Strategic Plan which are introducing KPI 40% gender balance.

4.7.6 Candidacies permitting, there must be at least ~~30%~~ 40% representation of each gender on each of the Councils and Committees.

**Opinion of the Fair Play Council:** In favour

# FIE Fair Play Council Meeting Report

**Date:** 27–28 June 2026
**Location:** Sofia, Bulgaria

## Participants

**Council Members**

- Jennifer Yamin (Chair for the meeting)
- Osmonzhan Kasymov
- Alejandro Benitez Romero
- Omneya Mansour
- Zuleydis Ortiz Puente
- Ali Toumi Dhw
- Hassen Zouari
- Ting Han

**FIE Representatives**

- Patricia Aiyenuro – FIE Executive Committee Member
- Elena Murdaca – FIE Projects & Development Director

**Absent**

- Gabor Deregan (Council President)
- Yuki Ota – FIE Exective Committee Member

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## Introduction

The Fair Play Council met in Sofia on 27–28 June 2026 to establish its strategic priorities, assign responsibilities for upcoming initiatives, and strengthen collaboration with other FIE commissions and councils. The meeting was chaired by Jennifer Yamin in the absence of Council President Gabor Deregan, who was unable to attend due to health concerns.

Patricia Aiyenuro, attending her first Fair Play Council meeting after being elected as the Executive Committee Member, was introduced as the new FIE Executive Committee representative and will serve as assistant to Executive Committee Member Yuki Ota. She volunteered to record the meeting minutes.

Throughout the meeting, the Council focused on developing educational resources, expanding Fair Play promotion through media and outreach, planning activities for major FIE events, and establishing clear action plans and responsibilities for the 2026–2027 season.

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# Executive Summary

The Fair Play Council established a structured action plan for the 2026–2027 season centered on education, media promotion, athlete engagement, and international collaboration. Working groups were formed to develop educational resources, promotional videos, social media campaigns, and interactive activities for Fair Play booths at major FIE events. The Council also agreed to promote World Fair Play Day, expand the Fair Play Awards program, and strengthen cooperation with other FIE commissions and councils.

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# Meeting Outcomes

## 1. Strategic Plan and Allocation of Responsibilities

The Council divided responsibilities into dedicated working groups:

### Education and Awareness

- Omneya Mansour and Alejandro Benitez Romero will develop educational materials promoting Fair Play. – Due date July 8, 2026
- Omneya Mansour and Gabor Deregan will prepare Fair Play educational content for coaching courses at the Budapest Academy.

### Media and Digital Content

Jennifer Yamin, Ting Han, and Osmonzhan Kasymov will collaborate with the FIE CMTV Department to produce:

- Promotional videos for the FIE website
- Educational content for Fair Play booths
- Videos highlighting real examples of Fair Play
- Localized content for different confederations and languages

Jennifer Yamin, Ting Han, and Osmonzhan Kasymov will also coordinate with the FIE Promotion, Communication & Marketing Commission, and filmmaker Patrick to develop professional media content. Sending clips of fair play to Patrick by 7/10.

### Fair Play Booth Activities

Hassen Zouari, Ali Toumi, and Zuleydis Ortiz Puente will expand interactive activities, including:

- Educational games
- Team-building activities
- Memory games
- Activity books
- Fair Play giveaways and recognition items

The Council emphasized engaging not only athletes but also parents and families.

### Budget Planning

Each working group will prepare a project plan and an estimated budget for submission to the group before sending the final plans to Elena Murdaca.- Due date: July 8, 2026

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## 2. Expansion of the Fair Play Awards

The Council agreed that Fair Play Awards should recognize outstanding contributions across multiple categories, including:

- Athletes
- Teams
- Coaches
- Medical Personnel
- Armourers

Members will actively identify deserving nominees throughout the season.

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## 3. Promotion of World Fair Play Day

The Council agreed to support:

- World Fair Play Day (May 19)
- IOC International Fair Play Day (September 7)

A coordinated social media campaign will be developed in cooperation with:

- Women's in Fencing Council
- Veterans Council
- FIE Communications Department
- Continental Confederations

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## 4. Allocation of Council Members to Major Events

Provisional assignments were made for:

| ZONALS | PAN AM | AFRICA | ASIA | EUROPE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ZONAL JUNIOR/CADET** | 1.DEREGAN | 1.KASYMOV | 1.TOURMI<br>Res. DEREGAN | 1.ORTIZ PUENTE |
| **ZONAL SENIOR** | 1.DEREGAN<br>Res. KASYMOV | 1.HAN | 1. MANSOUR | 1. BENITEZ ROMERO |
| **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS** | | | | |
| | #1 | #2 | RESERVE | MEMO |
| **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS JR & CADET** | TOUMI | BENITEZ ROMERO | MANSOUR | TOUMI needs visa (possibly) |
| **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SENIOR** | ZOUARI | ORTIZ PUENTE | TOUMI | |

The Council agreed that, whenever possible, members should work outside their own continental zone.

Assignments were proposed for Europe, Asia, Pan America, and Africa for both Junior/Cadet and Senior Championships.

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# 5. Meeting with the FIE Executive Committee

The Council met with:

- Interim President Abdelmoneim El Husseiny
- Secretary General Gulnora Saidova
- Executive Committee Member H.H. Engr. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Al Qasimi

### Key Messages

The Executive Committee:

- Thanked the Council for its work.
- Reaffirmed the importance of Fair Play within fencing and the Olympic Movement.
- Requested clear strategic planning with measurable KPIs.
- Highlighted the importance of Fair Play in maintaining fencing's Olympic relevance.
- Requested seasonal event allocations and emphasized avoiding conflicts of interest by assigning members outside their own zones.

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# 6. Meetings with Other FIE Bodies

### Refereeing Commission

Osmonzhan Kasymov met with Refereeing Commission President Irina Knysch.

Topics included:

- Encouraging referees to identify Fair Play moments.
- Distributing Fair Play nomination forms.
- Including Fair Play during referee briefings.

### Veterans Council

The Council agreed to collaborate by:

- Promoting Fair Play Day.
- Identifying Fair Play moments during veteran competitions.
- Producing interviews with veteran athletes discussing Fair Play.

### Women's in Fencing Council

Joint initiatives include:

- Updating the Fair Play section of the FIE website.
- Producing two-minute educational videos.
- Interviewing Fair Play Award recipients.
- Interviewing leading international athletes.
- Highlighting Fair Play initiatives from National Federations.
- Producing educational videos for venue screens and digital platforms.

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# Action Items

| Action | Responsible |
|---|---|
| Develop Fair Play educational materials | Omneya Mansour, Alejandro Benitez Romero |
| Produce Fair Play promotional videos | Jennifer Yamin, Ting Han, Osmonzhan Kasymov |
| Coordinate with Patrick regarding media content from Tbilisi | Jennifer Yamin |
| Identify Fair Play moments from competition footage | Jennifer Yamin, Ting Han, Osmonzhan Kasymov |
| Develop booth games and educational activities | Hassen Zouari, Ali Toumi, Zuleydis Ortiz Puente |
| Prepare coaching course materials | Gabor Deregan, Omneya Mansour |
| Develop online Fair Play quiz | Entire Council |
| Submit project plans and budgets | All working groups |
| Monthly progress updates (second Saturday each month) | All Council members |

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## Proposals for the 2026 Congress

**Proposal 67**: Presented by the Executive Committee (Article: 4.7.6) was voted **in Favor** by the Fair Play Council.
Article 4.7.6 – Candidacies permitting, there must be at least 40% representation of each gender on each of the Councils and Committees.
The committee's voting results were emailed to Ms. Hengameh Ahadpour and Ms. Elena Murdaca on 6/27/2026.

# Conclusion

The Fair Play Council made significant progress in defining its strategic priorities for the 2026–2027 season. Responsibilities were clearly assigned across education, media, event operations, and promotional activities, with an emphasis on measurable outcomes and increased collaboration with other FIE commissions and councils. The Council also received strong support from the FIE Executive Committee, reinforcing the importance of Fair Play as a core value within international fencing and its role in strengthening the sport's future.